ONEGAI TEACHER

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Author: Please!

2

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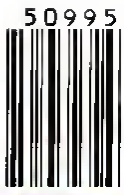

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GRAPHIC NOVEL

SUGGESTED 13 UP

Kei and Mizuho are bombarded with hardships as their love is tested again and again. Misunderstandings, petty bickering, and jealousy rock the relationship foundation of the interstellar teacher and this common earth boy. Admitting one's love is merely the first step and will be challenged throughout time. Find out if Kei and Mizuho have what it takes to live happily ever after in the second and final volume of Onegai Teacher.

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ORIGINAL MANGA

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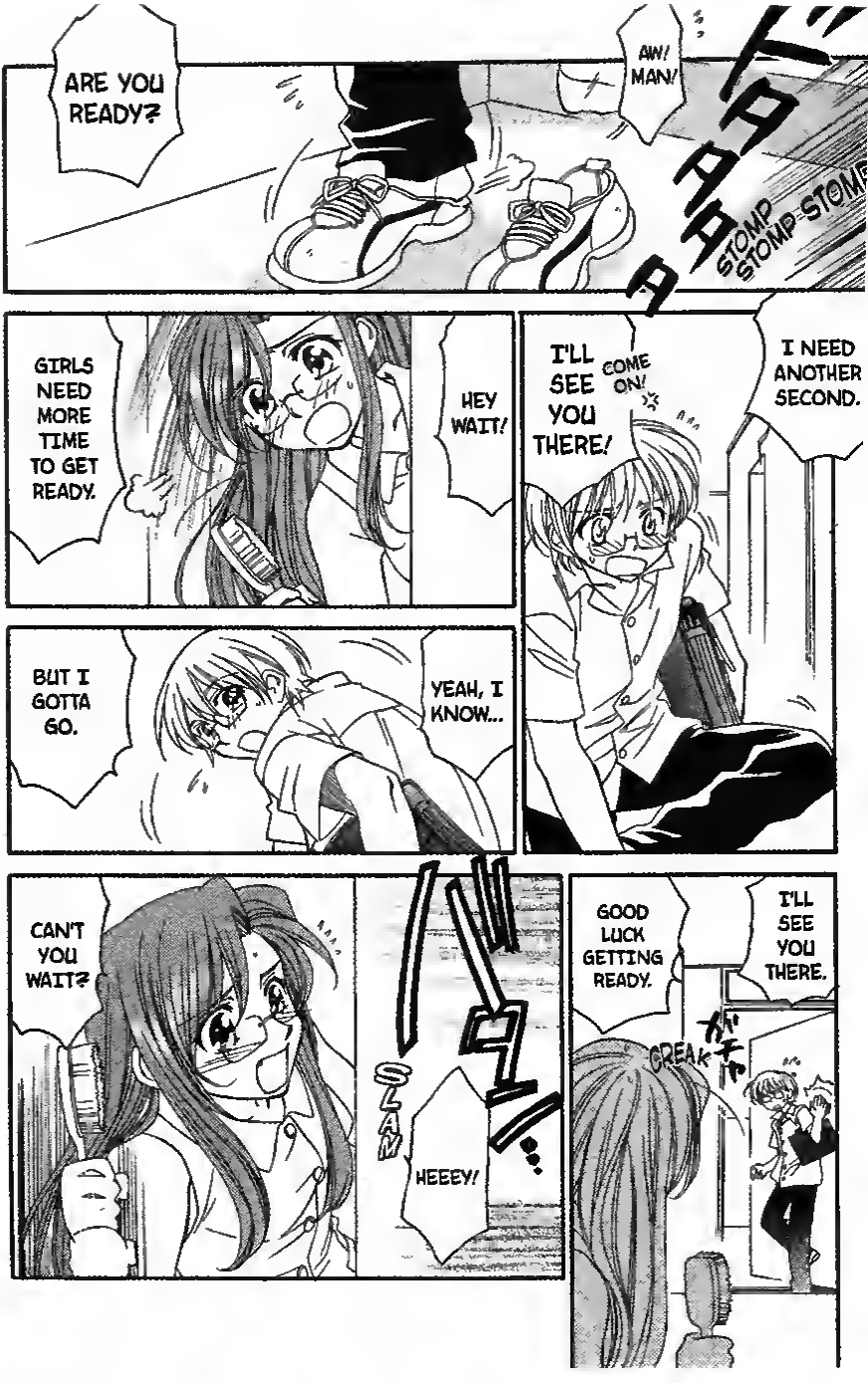
B-B-BEEP B-B-BEEP
TWEET
TWEET
MM...
TWEET
MM...
MMM...
HAH!
B-B-BEEP
HM?
HUH?
OH, NOOO!


ARE YOU READY?
AW! MAN!
STOMP STOMP STOMP
GIRLS NEED MORE TIME TO GET READY.
HEY WAIT!
I'LL SEE YOU THERE!
COME ON!
I NEED ANOTHER SECOND.
BUT I GOTTA GO.
YEAH, I KNOW...
CAN'T YOU WAIT?
SLAM
HEEEY!
GOOD LUCK GETTING READY.
I'LL SEE YOU THERE.
CREAK

STORY EIGHT
A NEW SEM-ESTER.
AND SO BEGAN ...
PLEASE TEACHER

.....
EHEM
UM...
IS THIS...
JUDGING...
A GOOD FEELING...?
TAT
TAT
BUT REALLY...
WE COULD SPEAK TO EACH OTHER LIKE THAT WITHOUT RESERVATION.
WHEN WE FIRST MET I NEVER FATHOMED...
TAT TAT
SORRY I'M LATE CLASS.
I WAS AT THE HOSPITAL THIS MORNING. I THINK I MAY BE CATCHING SOMETHING.
ESPECIALLY...
THE ONE WHO'S STANDING OUTSIDE.
TODAY IS THE FIRST DAY OF A NEW SEMESTER.
I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE PULLED YOURSELVES TOGETHER.
YOU SHOULD KEEP THAT IN MIND.
HMHM...

DING DONG
...THIS AIN'T FAIR...
SIGH...
OKAY CLASS?
UGH...
NOT A SINGLE BIT.
HAVE YOU REFLECTED BACK ON WHAT YOU'VE DONE?
SO, KEI.
LIAR...
MEANIE...
PSH
YOU KNOW THAT'S DIFFERENT KEI.
PLUS, IT'S NOT FAIR THAT YOU GET TO RELY ON MARIE.
MIZUHO, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO FORGOT TO SET THE ALARM.
PSH...
PST...
IT'S 'CAUSE YOU WERE WATCHING TV 'TIL LATE LAST NIGHT.

YEAH YEAH.
I'M DOIN' THE BEST I CAN.
WHAT?!
YOU SHOULD BE CLEANING TOO, KEI.
HE'S NOT CUTE.
AY...
.....
.....
YO, KEI.
WHY YOU SLACKING OFF, MAN?
PEEK
OH SORRY.
HE COULD HAVE WAITED FOR ME.
MEANIE.
CAN'T SHE BE A LITTLE MORE LENIENT ON ME?
SIGH...
SO CHILD-ISH.
PSH...

TELL ME ABOUT IT
STEW...
HAH...
WHERE DID OUR SUMMER VACATION GO?
SCRAPE
STRAWBERRY ICE
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
UH...
SIGH
HAHA
おはよ
AHAHAHA
ALL I DID DURING BREAK WAS HELP IN THE HOUSE.
WHAT A WAY TO SPEND SUMMER VACATION!
SHE WAS SO QUIET ALL DAY TODAY.
SHE... DIDN'T WAIT FOR US AFTER CLASS.
WHA...
WHAT?
HAH
ICHI-GO...?
HEY...
THAT AND THIS ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.
I STILL HAVE FEELINGS FOR HIM BUT...
OF COURSE NOT.
DON'T READ INTO IT SO MUCH.
I HOPE SHE'S NOT BEING LIKE THIS 'CAUSE OF ME.
YOU THINK IT'S 'CAUSE OF HYOSUKE?

I DON'T WANT HER TO RESTRAIN THOSE FEELINGS.
WHA...
WHAT?
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
THINGS ... WILL WORK OUT, KAEDE.
IT'S LIKE...
YOU CAN'T CONTROL OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS, YOU KNOW?
SO IF ICHIGO ALSO HAS FEELINGS FOR HYOSUKE...
I DON'T WANT THIS TO STRAIN OUR RELATIONSHIP.
ICHIGO MEANS SO MUCH TO ME.
YEAH!
YOU GUYS ARE SO TIGHT!
YOU THINK ?
I HOPE SO.
IT'S JUST THAT THINGS ARE A BIT AWKWARD RIGHT NOW.
I'M SURE ICHIGO KNOWS
KOISHI...
I GOT TO DO MY BEST
SO ...
THE WAY YOU DID!
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, WE'LL BE SITTING HERE WITH HER EATING ICE CREAM LIKE THIS AGAIN.

ALRIGHT!
I'M GOING TO TAKE THIS CHANCE!
UH...
OKAY GOOO LUCK...
BY THE WAY...
WE DON'T HEAR ABOUT UFOS ANYMORE, HUH?
THAT WAS JUST A FALSE RUMOR.
ALIENS DON'T EXIST.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS TAKING IT SERIOUSLY AND ALL...
HIS MIND IS BEING OCCUPIED WITH ICHIGO.
HOW ARE THINGS GOING WITH HER?
UH...
HAH!
THI...
THINGS ARE LOOK-ING GOOD MAN!
WE MAKE EYE CONTACT AND SHE GETS ALL RED.

SHUT UP MAN!
SIGH...
SO, SHE'S NOT INTER-ESTED IN YOU.
OH...
I LIKE HOW YOU'RE AN OPTIMIST.
THAT'S GOOD.
I HAVEN'T BEEN COM-PLETELY REJECTED BY HER.
I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE UP ON HER.
NOT UNTIL SHE GIVES ME THOSE FINAL WORDS.
BLAH BLAH BLAH
MEN MUST FALL FLAT ON THEIR FACE WHEN THEY DIE.
YEAH, YEAH.
YOU GUYS ARE IN YOUR PRIME...
I'M JEALOUS.
.....
.....
TO...
TO WHO!?
I'M GOING TO PRO-POSE!
HUHP
HUH?
I'M GOING TO DO IT!

REE REE REE
MS. KAZAMI OF COURSE!
TO...
OH...
REALLY?
.....
.....
TAP
TAP
BEEP
LITTLE DOES HE KNOW...
YEAH...
S...
SORRY.
IT HAD BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST SPENT TIME WITH THEM SO...
I ATE WITH-OUT YOU.
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME YOU'D BE LATE.
HM?
YEAH, I'M LIS-TENING.
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?
.....
BEEP BEEP

YOU WEREN'T LISTENING AT ALL...
えぇ!?
WHAT?
OH MATAGU? HE WANTS TO PROPOSE... TO ME?
YOU MEAN...
HM...?
DON'T YOU THINK ANYTHING OF HIM WANTING TO PROPOSE TO YOU?!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
AND MOODY...
HE'S ACTUALLY REALLY PERVERTED...
SO...
AUHM...
MATA-GU...
HM...
REAL-LY...
TEACHERS ALWAYS JUDGE STU-DENTS BY THEIR GRADES.
むっ
HE'S SIN-CERE.
HE DOES WELL IN CLASS TOO...
TAP TAP
BEEP
I WAS ONLY SPEAKING THE TRUTH.
AUH...
YOU SHOULDN'T TALK BADLY OF YOUR FRIENDS.
THAT'S NOT NICE KEI.
BEEP BEEP

YOU'RE JEALOUS.
GLANCE
OH! I GET IT.
FSSHHH
BEEP BEEP
CRUNCH
HM?
THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR DESSERT.
.....
YOU JUST ATE DINNER.
HARSH
YOU'RE EATING AGAIN?
CLANK CLANK
... NO!
RATTLE
DINNER WAS GOOD!
WOULDN'T IT HURT TO RECEIVE BETTER GRADES THAN OTHERS.
HARSH
SHOULDN'T YOU BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR GRADES THAN MY FIGURE?
GRRRRR
SPLASH
I'M SENSITIVE ABOUT THAT!
HOW RUDE!
YOU'RE GOING TO GET BIGGER IN THOSE PLACES YOU WANT TO KEEP FLAT.
I'M JUST WARNING YOU...
THAT'S ALL

YES, THAT'S RIGHT!
NOH...
OH IS THAT RIGHT?
RRRIINGG
HM?
MAN...
CLANK CLANK
BEEP
HELLO?
WHO?
OH. KOISHI?
YEAH. THIS IS MINORU'S CELL. HE'S LETTING HE USE IT FOR A WHILE
WHAT'S UP?
... YEAH.
YEAH.
AL-RIGHT.
BYE.
TAP TAP
HMPH
BEEP

WHAT DID SHE WANT?
TAT
TAT
HM?
SHE WANTS TO TALK.
NOW?
YEAH
WHY?
OH...
NOTH-ING...
YOU'RE NOT JEALOUS, ARE YOU?
NO, I'M NOT JEAL-OUS!
WHAT ?
SO THEN WHAT'S THE PROB-LEM?
WEIRDO
AUH....
HM?
FOR ME?
Click
HELLO?
RRRRINNGGG

STORY EIGHT - THE END

SIGH
.....
WAS THAT THE RIGHT THING TO DO?
I STORMED OUT OF THERE...
WHA...
THIS LATE AT NIGHT...!?
.....
OKAY.
WE CAN MEET NOW THEN!
...

STORY NINE

NAH, IT'S FINE!
THERE'S NOTH-ING FISHY ABOUT THIS.
WHY IS THIS BOTHERING ME SO MUCH?
UGH
I'M SUCH A KID.
.....
.....
BUT...
KOISHI ...
WHAT IF SHE WANTS TO...

HMPH
KEI CAN DO WHATEVER HE WANTS.
CONTINUE TALKING ABOUT...
INSENSITIVE...
HE'S SO...
MATAGU PROPOSES...
WHAT IF, AS KEI SAID...
.....
.....

.....
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SPLASH

HEY KEI.
.....
HEY.
SORRY ...
TO CALL YOU OUT THIS LATE.
HI

MS. KAZAMI!
THUMP
GOOD EVEN-ING.
.....
.....
UM...
.....
.....
I....
UM...
SO...
WHAT'S UP?

WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GO HOME TOGETHER THESE DAYS.
WE USED TO ALL HANG OUT TOGETHER AFTER CLASS.
I'VE BEEN REALLY BUSY.
I'VE GOT TO BRING UP MY GRADES ...
OH, I SEE.
YEAH ...
....
UM... .....
I ACTUALLY DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME RIGHT NOW...
KOISHI...
IF YOU DON'T MIND CAN WE TALK ABOUT THIS TOMORROW AT SCHOOL?
!
GRAB
I'll... SEE YOU TOMORROW...
CREEK
ZING

HUH?
KOISHI ...?
GRIP
.....
H...
HEY...
YANK
I...
I LIKE YOU...
KEI.../
I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE.
I'M ALWAYS NERVOUS AROUND YOU.

MY HEART STARTS HURTING OVER NOTHING...
AT FIRST I THOUGHT I COULD LEAVE THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE.
BUT...
I WANT TO BE CLOSER TO YOU.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
I DON'T WANT TO JUST LOOK AT YOU.
I DON'T WANT TO JUST BE YOUR CLASSMATE.
I DON'T WANT TO JUST WALK WITH YOU.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT THESE FEELINGS.
PLEASE TELL ME. IT'S ALL UP TO YOU.
KOISHI ...

KOI...
ZING
.....
SORRY...
.....
SORRY KOISHI.
THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE I'M INTERESTED IN.
I'M SORRY I HADN'T MADE THINGS CLEAR TO YOU EARLIER.
BUT
I CAME TO REALIZE THAT IT'S OKAY TO BE THE WAY I AM...
BECAUSE OF HER.

I SOMETIMES SENSE A COMPLEX...
WE FIGHT OVER THE SILLIEST THINGS...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT BUT...
BUT SHE ALREADY HAS A PLACE IN MY HEART.
PUSH
!
KOIS-HI...
.....
YOU DON'T HAVE TIME RIGHT?
IT'S... FINE ...
YOU SHOULD GO HOME!

C...
COME ON
YEAH ...
BUT...
TAT
SST
BYE!
.....
.....
...
SORRY
ZZP
THOMP
THOM

HAH
THOMP
HAH
HAH
THOMP
HAH
THOMP
HAH!

.....
HEY.
KAEDE ...?
HEY...
KOISHI...
HEY.

UM.
I CALLED YOUR HOUSE AND YOUR MOM SAID YOU WERE OUT.
SO I THOUGHT MAYBE...
YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME?
HOW DID YOU GUESS?
UH...
SO, YOU WERE WITH KEI?
YUP.
WELL... AND...
THE RESULT ...
I WAS REJECTED ...!

HEY.
UM... KOISHI...
AUH...
COME ON. DON'T LOOK SO WORRIED.
I'M FINE!
REALLY!
I JUST GOT RID OF A HUGE LOAD OFF MY CHEST.
I HAD A FEELING THINGS WOULD TURN OUT THIS WAY
SO... I FINALLY GOT REJECTED.
I'M FINE.
YEAH.
I'M FINE!
KOISHI...
I...
.....
.....

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED... KNIT-TING AND EMBRO-IDERY.
AT FIRST I WAS REALLY BAD...
AND I COULDN'T MAKE ANYTHING NICE.
BUT I STILL FOUND IT ENJOYABLE.
I THINK IT'S BECAUSE IT GIVES ME THE TIME TO IMAGINE AND CREATE THINGS IN MY MIND.
WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING ALL OF A SUDDEN?
NO, UM...
YOU SEE.
ARE YOU OUT OF IT?
OF COURSE IT WOULD BE GREAT IF I COULD MAKE SOMETHING THE WAY I IMAGINE IT.
BUT EVEN IF IT DOESN'T TURN OUT THE WAY I WANT IT TO...
I STILL CHERISH THE TIME I SPEND ON IT.
THAT JUST
WHAT I THINK...
AH...
WAAAHHH
AUH...
HAH!
AND UH...
...KOIS-HI?
KO... KOISHI?
BAWL

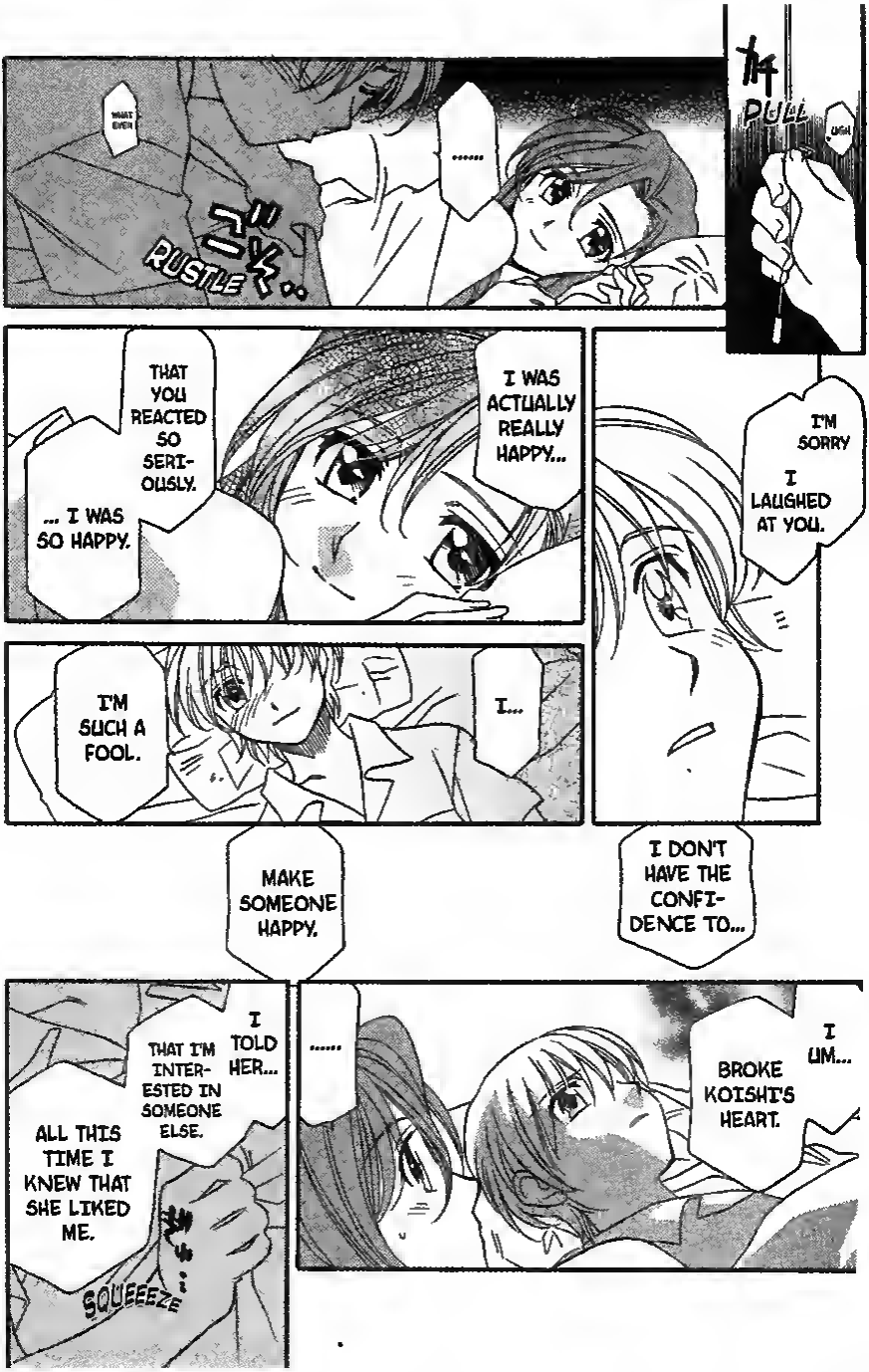
WHA WHA...
WHAT'S WRONG KOISHI?!
ARE YOU OKAY?
UH...
UM UM
YOU...
YOU MADE ME CRY...
I WAS TRYING TO HOLD IT IN.
OH MY GOSH! I'M SO SORRY.
WAAAAAH
SNIFF
BUT...
YOU'RE RIGHT...
FEELING NERVOUS AND GETTING EXCITED.
HA-HA
I DID...
ENJOY IT.
BUT...
WAAAH! MAKES ME CRY.
PAT PAT
KOISHI
IT'S OKAY TO LET IT ALL OUT.
HAH
HAH
HAH
SPLASH
SPLASH

HAH
MIZU
HO...
HAH
HAH
MIZUHO
...!
HAH
.....
HM!
MI...
!!!
MATAGU?
IT'S OKAY MATAGU.
!!
MS. KAZA-MI!

MS...
THAT BASTARD!
MS. KAZAMI!
KEI...!?
K...

AN ANT!
IT'S HUGE!
HE... HELP ME! I HATE BUGS!
HEY...
CALM DOWN MATAGU. THE ANT'S NOT GOING TO ATTACK!
THUD
HM?
HEI? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
UH... NOTH-ING.
I WAS THINKING BACK ON THE WORLD CUP FINAL AND TRIED TO REENACT ONE OF THE GOALKEEPER'S MOVES...
OLIVER KAHN...
OH...
DO... DO YOU WANT TO STUDY WITH US?
YOU'D HELP ME RELAX.
HAHA
HAHA
PHEW

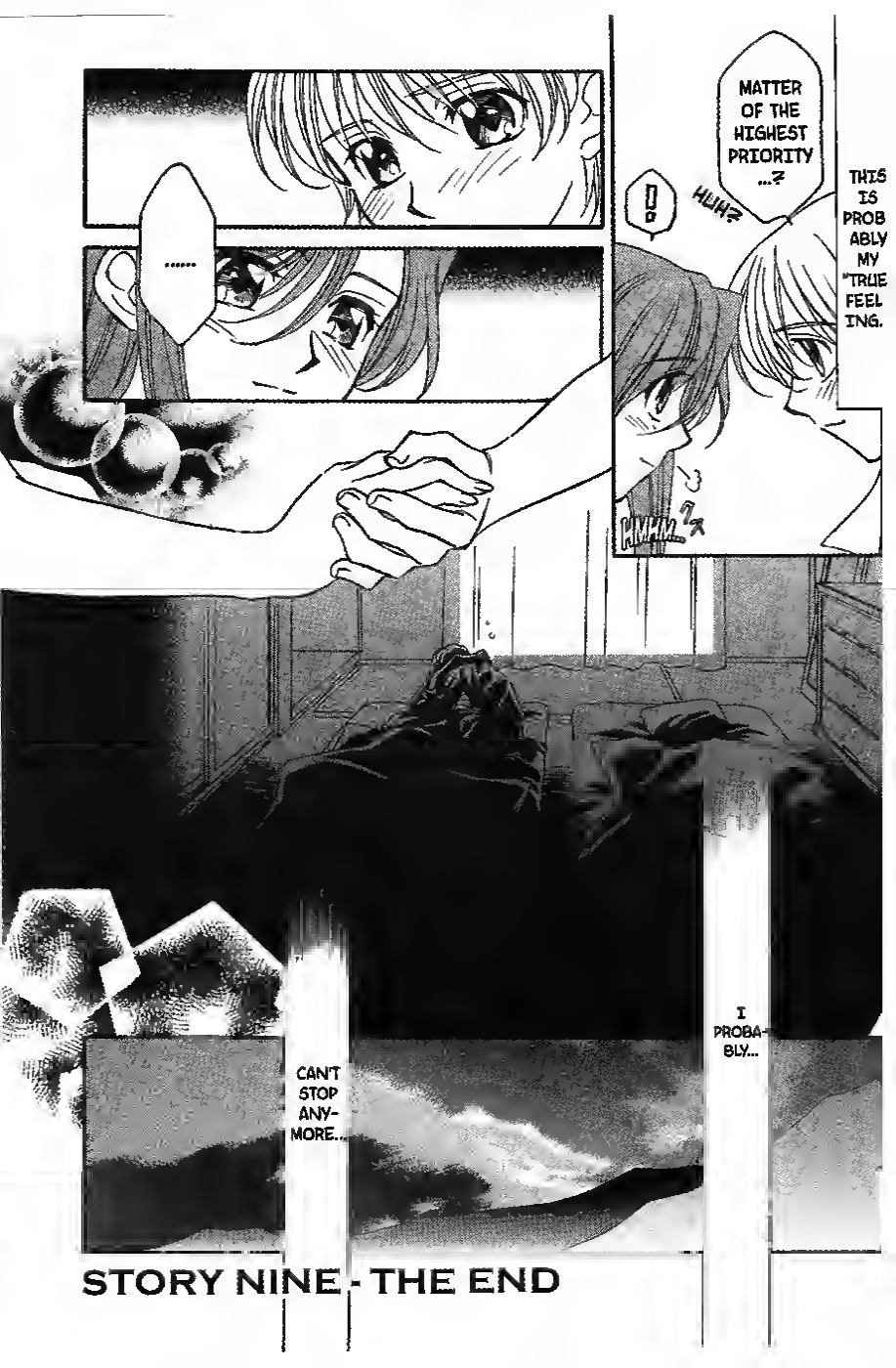
.....
HEHE HE
I'M...
AN IDIOL...
UGH...
YOU STILL LAUGH-ING?
'C...
'CAUSE ...
YOU LOOKED SO SERIOUS WHEN YOU WERE RUNNING TOWARDS US...
ANY-ONE
WHO SAW YOU TWO LIKE THAT WOULD THINK SOMETHING WAS UP.
HAHA
YEAH BUT...
TEE
ARGH!
I'M GOING TO SLEEP! DON'T WANT TO BE LATE AGAIN TOMOR-ROW!


WHAT EVEN!
RUSTLE
.....
PULL
UGH
I'M SORRY I LAUGHED AT YOU.
I WAS ACTUALLY REALLY HAPPY...
THAT YOU REACTED SO SERIOUSLY.
... I WAS SO HAPPY.
I...
I'M SUCH A FOOL.
I DON'T HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO...
MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY.
I UM...
BROKE KOISHI'S HEART.
.....
I TOLD HER...
THAT I'M INTERESTED IN SOMEONE ELSE.
ALL THIS TIME I KNEW THAT SHE LIKED ME.
SQUEEEEZE

BUT WOULD YOU RATHER NOT CHOOSE?
!
SO... IT'S REALLY TOUGH.
EVEN MAHO.
BY BEING WITH YOU I'M HURTING SOMEONE ELSE.
IT'S TOUGH.
....BUT I CHOSE YOU.
OR WOULD YOU RATHER THROW IT ALL AWAY?
YOU'RE SCARED OF CHOOSING SO CAN YOU ACCEPT EVERYTHING?
ARE YOU GOING TO LIE TO YOURSELF OVER FEAR OF SOMEONE ELSE?
MAKING CHOICES IS MY WAY OF SHOWING MY SINCERITY AND HONESTY.
THERE'S ALWAYS ONLY ONE TRUE FEELING IN MY HEART.
I WOULDN'T. MY HEART WOULD FALL APART.

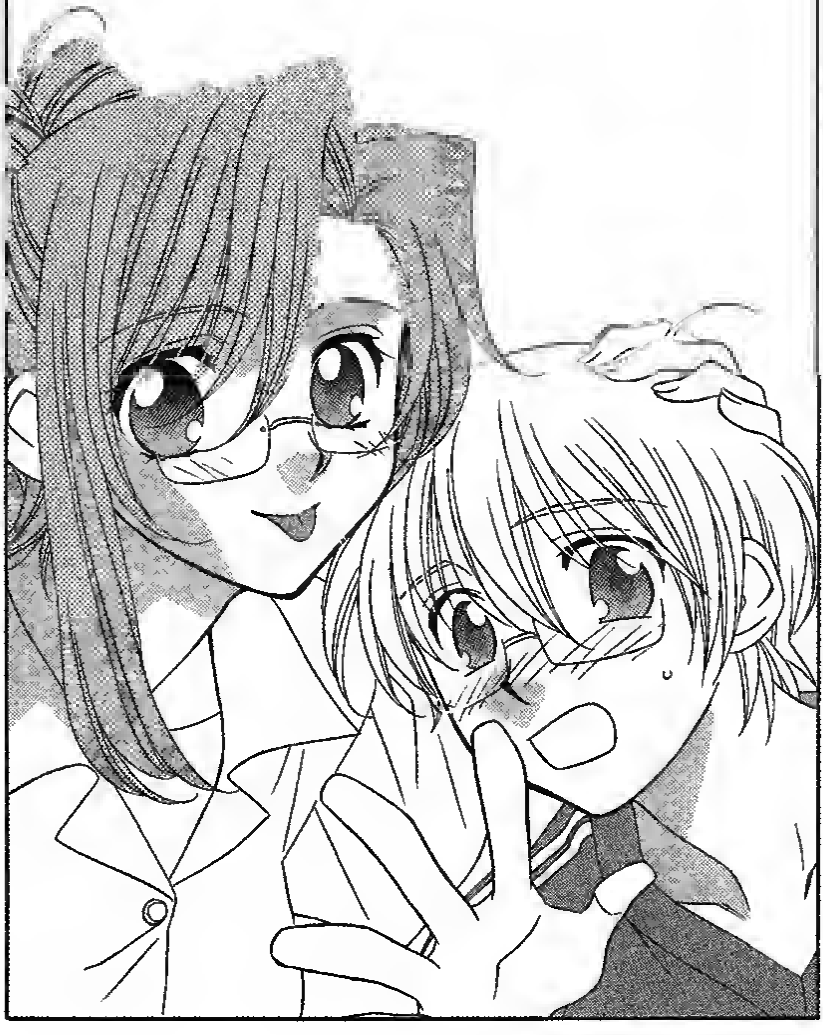
I SEE...
MAYBE MY HEART STAGNA-TING...
WAS MY WAY OF CHOOSING.
HOW HUMILI-ATING...
I THINK SO.
MM...
IS THIS WHAT IT MEANS TO MOVE FOR-WARD..
OF COURSE.
THERE WERE ALSO TIMES WHEN I DIDN'T MAKE CHOICES.
YOU'VE ALWAYS MADE CHOIC-ES?
BUT YOU'RE NOT ALONE ANY-MORE.
I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY ONE WOULD WANT TO ESCAPE WHEN THEY'RE ALONE.
UM...
SST

MIZUHO...
I FOUND YOU...
AND YOU FOUND ME.
THERE'S NOTHING MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN THIS.
WHY?
WE CAN BOTH WORK TOGETHER
AND BECOME EVEN HAPPIER.
TOGETHER...
YEAH.
TOGETHER...!
THAT'S OUR...
DO I FEEL SO MUCH LOVE?



STORY NINE - THE END

STORY TEN



TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
.....
'MORN-
ING.

TAT
IT'S...
MY TURN TO GO TO SCHOOL FIRST TODAY.
YEAH.
I'LL SEE YOU THERE.
TODAY...
I FEEL AS THOUGH...
EVERYTHING INSIDE HAS CHANGED.
.....
GOOD MORN-ING!

.....
YEAH.
SEE YOU AT SCHOOL.
CREEEEK
.....
.....
SO STRANGE ...
AAAAH
WHAT AM I A FANTA-SIZING LIL" GIRL/?
わ～!
AAARRRGH... THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING.../
ダダッ
STOMP STOMP
AHAHA
HEE HEE
HEE HEE
DAMN. THIS IS EMBAR-RASS-ING.../
HM.
EVEN THE SCENERY LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM YESTERDAY.

AUH...
ZING
I...
KOISHI
...

I'M HORRIBLE...
MIZUHO...
I'M HORRIBLE
HEY.
WHAT'S UP KEI!
I GIVE MYSELF UP TO THE HAPPINESS IN FRONT OF ME...
IT'S...
YO!
THIS CHICKEN DIDN'T PROPOSE TO MS. KAZAMI!
IT'S JUST THAT THE TIMING WASN'T RIGHT!
HAHA HA
WHAT KIND OF A ROLE MODEL IS HE?
いたた
OWWW..
H...
HEY!
WHILE THERE'S SOMEONE WHO'S HURTING RIGHT BY ME...

LOOK WHO'S TALKING HYOSUKE ...
OWWW
SIGH
AGGHHH
MORNING KEI.
GOOD MORN-ING!
RATTLE
OH... HEY.
WHA
WHAT ?
HM?
STARE
UH... HUH!?
OH YEAH!
YOUR NEW SEAT IS OVER THERE.
WE GOT NEW SEAT ARRANGE-MENTS YESTERDAY.
UM...

.....
KEI ...?
CLICK CLICK
CLICK CLICK
CLICK

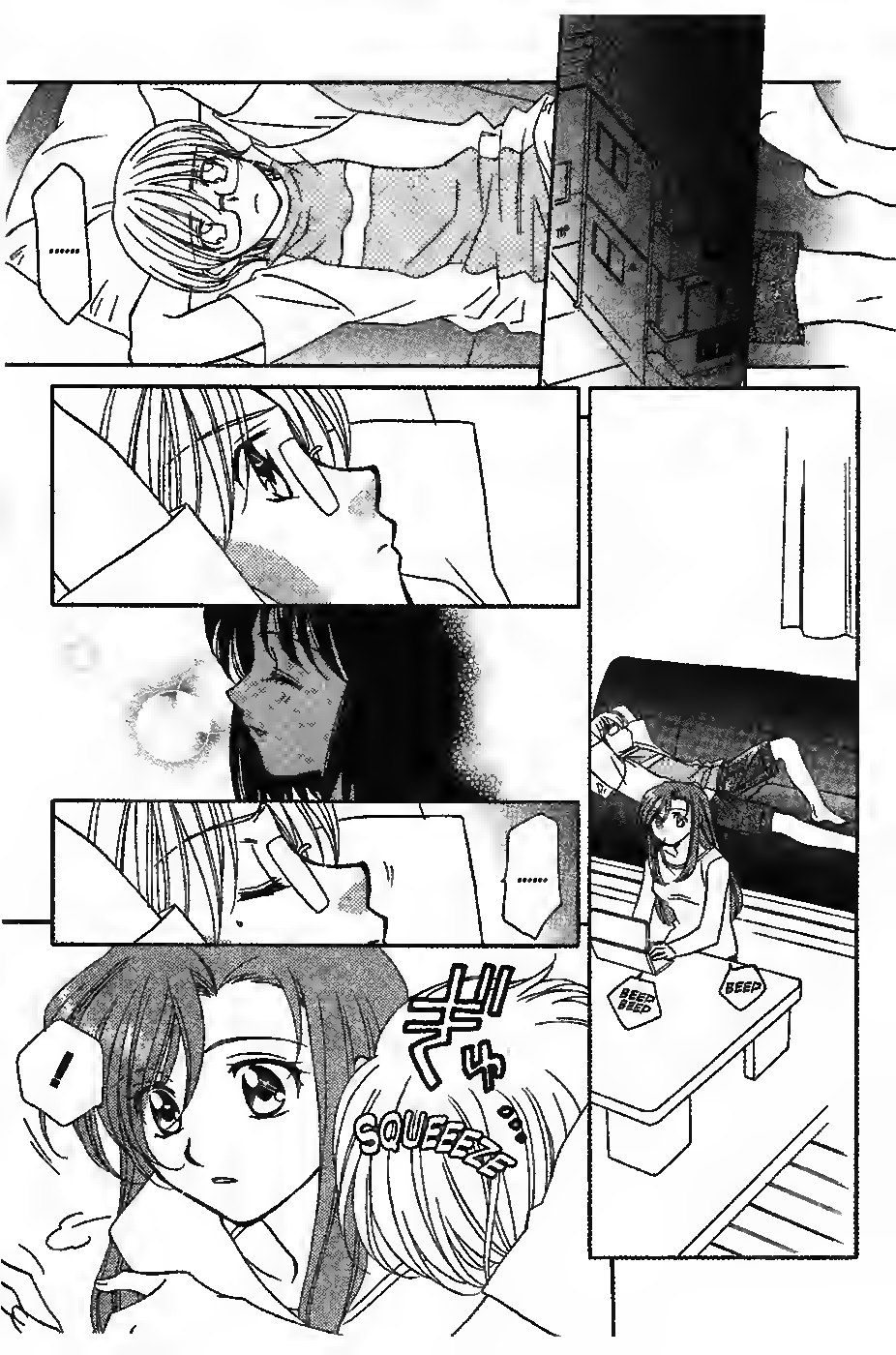
IS EVERY-THING OKAY?
KOISHI
TAP
HM?
YEAH WHY?
WHAT ABOUT WITH KEI?
.....
.....
I KNEW IT
I CAN TELL GIRL.
YOU'RE GIVING OFF FUNNY VIBES.
UH...
UM
ICHIGO...
HEHE
I WAS TRYING TO ACT NORMAL BUT
YOU KNOW ME TOO WELL!

YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY?
YOU...
BUT I TOTALLY GOT REJECTED!
I TOLD KEI HOW I FEEL LAST NIGHT
やはは HAHAHA
!
...
ACTU-ALLY UM...
HE HAS HIS REA-SONS.
HE MADE IT CLEAR.
WHAT CAN I DO RIGHT?
YEAH. 'CAUSE ...
OUR LIL' CIRCLE HASN'T CHANGED EITHER!
KEI AND I ARE STILL CLASSMATES, NOTHING HAS CHANGED.
SO

SO THAT'S IT!
OK?
LET'S TALK ABOUT SOME-THING ELSE NOW!
OH OKAY.
KOISHI ...
WHAT ?
WHY DO YOU LOOK MORE SAD THAN ME?
'CAUSE...
HEHE
AHA...
SILLY!
!
...OOPS ...
DROP

I'M GONNA GO WASH MY FACE.
AIYAH.
I'M FINE, REALLY.
SORRY...
OH
KOISHI ...!
KOISHI YOU'RE STRONG.
.....
.....
.....

YOU'RE SO SWEE ICHI GO.
YOU'RE ALWAYS THERE FOR US.
IT'S OKAY TO THINK MORE ABOUT YOURSELF SOMETIMES.
YOU KNOW ?
YEAH.
ICHI-GO...!
.....
DON'T WORRY...
ABOUT ME...


.....
.....
BEEP BEEP BEEP
BEEP
!
SQUEEZE

KEI
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTH-ING.
I JUST...
SORRY.
CAN I JUST STAY LIKE THIS FOR A SEC?
.....
OF COURSE.

WHAT'S UP?
WHAT'S WITH THE LETTER IN MY DESK?
ZZP
ICHIGO!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
IS IT SOME-THING IMPOR-TANT?
.....
YEAH.
SOME-THING... REALLY IMPORTANT.

...
KOISHI WAS PERSUADED TO PROPOSE TO YOU...
!
BY ME.
WHY DID YOU SAY NO?
.....
.....
SHE'S HAD HER EYES ON YOU FOR THE LONGEST TIME.
I THOUGHT YOU KNEW SHE WAS INTERESTED IN YOU.
OH.

SORRY.
I'M INTERESTED IN... SOMEONE ELSE.
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T RETURN THE SAME FEELINGS TO KOISHI.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO HURT HER.
BUT I CAN'T LIE TO HER.
I HAD TO TELL HER THE TRUTH.
THAT'S ...

NOT RIGHT.
ICHI-GO?
.....
THAT'S NOT RIGHT!
HOW COULD YOU!?
.....
STORY TEN - THE END

SO...
.....
WHAT ARE YOU... TRYING TO SAY?

YOU TRYING TO TELL ME TO GO OUT WITH KOISHI?
DATING HER WHILE I'M THINKING OF SOMEONE ELSE IS FAR WORSE!
YOU KNOW ... ABOUT HYOSUKE ...
PLUS ...
WHO ARE YOU TO BE SAYING ALL THIS?
I...
I'M TRYING TO FORGET THIS EVER HAPPENED BETWEEN KOISHI AND ME.
AND... AND YOU...
WHY AM I BEING...
YOU DIDN'T GIVE HIM A STRAIGHT ANSWER.
CRITI-CIZED
BY YOU?
!
はっ...
HAH!

STORY ELEVEN

I'M ALWAYS PRAYING
FOR KOISHI AND KAEDE'S HAPPINESS.
FOR-WARD?
THEIR HAPPINESS HELPS ME MOVE FORWARD...!
I KNOW...
I'M ASKING TOO MUCH FROM YOU.
KOISHI AND YOU...
KOISHI AND YOU...
AS LONG AS THEIR SMILING, I...
WHAT?
ICHIGO!
I'M CLOSING MY EYES TO MY OWN FAULTS.
I KNOW IT.

HE WAS JUST...
SWAYED BY THE ATMOS-PHERE AT THE TIME.
HE'LL FORGET ABOUT ME...
WHAT ABOUT HYOSUKE?
HE LIKES YOU!
.....
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS?
YOU'RE GETTING IN KOISHI'S BUSINESS, YOU'RE IGNORING HYOSUKE'S FEELINGS...
THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS!
AS SOON AS HE GETS TO KNOW ME BETTER.
PLUS, KAEDE NEEDS HIM MORE THAN I DO.
...
UGH

DON'T YOU THINK KAEDE GAVE UP ON HYOSUKE 'CAUSE...
SHE UNDERSTANDS YOUR FEELINGS?
YOU'RE DISCONNECTING YOURSELF FROM HIM BY KILLING WHAT YOU TRULY FEEL!
THAT'S NOT RIGHT!
...
BUT...
NOT KAEDE!
YOU! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
BUT...
KAEDE ...

SST
.....
I...
ZING
I...
HEY!
THUD
HEY!
ICHI-GO/?
ICHI-GO?
!
ICHI-GO...!

COULD SHE BE...?
SHE'S NOT BREATH-ING...
STAGNATED...?
ICHIGO...?
ICHI-GO!
TWITCH
.....

.....
KEI...
YOU AWAKE?
HUH?
I... MUST HAVE...
HAD ANOTHER SEIZURE.
YOU STAGNATED.
YEAH ...
YEAH ...
BUT...
HOW DO YOU...
WHEN YOU'RE ANXIOUS OR DISTRESSED YOU SOMETIMES LOOSE CONSCIOUSNESS.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
STAGNATED ...?

THIS...
I HAVE THE SAME DISEASE
HA!
WHAT!?
IS MY ROOM ...?
HOW DID I...?
YOU STAGNATED AT SCHOOL.
I THOUGHT OF TAKING YOU TO A HOSPITAL...
BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE KEEPING YOUR ILLNESS A SECRET, SO...
I GOT YOUR KEYS FROM YOUR BACKPACK
SORRY I HAD TO GO THROUGH YOUR STUFF.
IT'S OKAY.
THIS WAS THE BEST THING YOU COULD HAVE DONE FOR ME.
I NEVER KNEW YOU WERE SUFFERING FROM THE SAME DISEASE.
YEAH.
I HAD MY FIRST SEIZURE WHEN I WAS 15 AND STAGNATED FOR 3 YEARS.
I'M 18... WHAT ABOUT YOU?
... 21...

I...
I REALLY DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT YOU, HUH?
UH... A LIT-TLE...
I STAGNAT-ED FOR 6 YEARS.
ARE YOU SHOCK-ED?
TWEN ...
YOU LIVING HERE FOR YOUR-SELF?
.....
WHY ELSE WOULD I?
'CAUSE OF YOUR ILL-NESS?
YEAH.
IS THAT TRUE.
YEAH.
IT'S NOT THAT MY PARENTS DON'T WANT ME AROUND
BUT I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE THEM
SO I CAME TO LIVE WITH MY UNCLE WHO'S A DOCTOR.
.....
MY CASE IS PRETTY SIMI-LAR.
MY SISTER WHO'S A YEAR YOUNGER THAN ME IS MARRIED ALREADY.
SHE'S GOING TO BE A MOTHER NEXT YEAR.

I'M SORRY
I GOT YOU INVOLVED IN ALL THIS.
I KNOW YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG.
DID YOU GET IN BETWEEN KOISHI AND ME
'CAUSE YOU DIDN'T WANT TO STAGNATE AGAIN?
DON'T WANT TO STAGNATE ANYMORE.
BUT I...
I...
I DON'T WANT TO STAG-NATE EITHER.

KEI...
ICHIGO
WE'RE GONNA MOVE FORWARD.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU STAGNATE EITHER.
HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD?
NOT COMPLETELY
BUT AN IMPORTANT PERSON TAUGHT ME.
HOW? .....
WE HAVE TO MOVE FORWARD...
OURSELVES
OR SIMPLY BE SATISFIED WITH SEEING OTHER PEOPLE MOVE FORWARD...
WITHOUT ONLY HELPING OTHERS MOVE FORWARD

WELL...
I GUESS
HE'LL SHOW YOU.
STOMP STOMP
CLIK
!?
HYO... SUKE ...
ICHI-GO!
SORRY! I... SORRY...
OH SHIT
HYOSUKE
YOU'RE A LITTLE LOUD MAN.
SHE'S SICK IN BED
KOISHI AND THEM TOO...
I CALLED HIM OVER. I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.
WHY...
STOMP

YOU TREATED US LIKE STRANGERS ICHIGO...
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD US ABOUT YOUR CONDITION.
HAD I KNOWN I...
I'M SERIOUS.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT SORT OF CONDITION YOU'RE IN.
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU!
WHAT...
I WAS ASLEEP FOR 6 YEARS!
...ARE YOU SAYING? I'M SICK!
YEAH...
IT'S A RATHER SERIOUS ILLNESS... THAT'S WHY...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SUFFER ALONE.
I'M GOING TO BE THERE FOR YOU.
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY!
UM...
WHAT?

I'M 6 YEARS OLDER THAN YOU.
THAT'S WHY...
!
...
UM...
EHEM
HUHP
THE STARS I ADMIRE ARE...
YAGUCHI FROM MORNING MUSUME...
I MAY STAGNATE AGAIN ANY TIME.
AND YUMI ADACHI!

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT YOUR SICKNESS
AGE DOESN'T MATTER.
YEAH THAT'S RIGHT.
UM...
UH
THAT'S WHAT I WAS TRYING TO GET AT.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING HYOSUKE?
ARE YOU...
SAYING YOU LIKE GIRLS WHO LOOK YOUNGER THAN THEIR AGE?
L
SILENCE
.....
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU TO WAKE UP.
BUT IF YOU FALL ASLEEP AGAIN
I DON'T MIND.
I'M NOT THE MOST PATIENT GUY YOU'LL EVER MEET BUT...
I KNOW I CAN WAIT.
FOR YOU ICHIGO...
...

.....
ICHI GO...!
YOU MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL
YOU RE
YOU'RE OLD AND GRAY...
SILLY FOR SAYING SUCH A THING...
HAHA
TIP TOE
WHAT HAPPENED TO WANTING TO BE PRESIDENT SOME DAY?
I'M AIMING TO BE THE WORLD'S OLDEST LIVING MAN!
I'M GOING TO BE THE AWESOMEST OLD MAN!
ONE PROBLEM SETTLED...
WELL ...
I'M GOING TO BE THE WORLD OLDEST PRESIDENT
STUPID...
I GUESS I'M IN THEIR RIGHT NOW...

I HOPE ICHIGO CAN...

START MOVING FORWARD...

BUT I CAN TAKE IT BACK...

AS LONG AS I'M THINKING POSITIVELY.

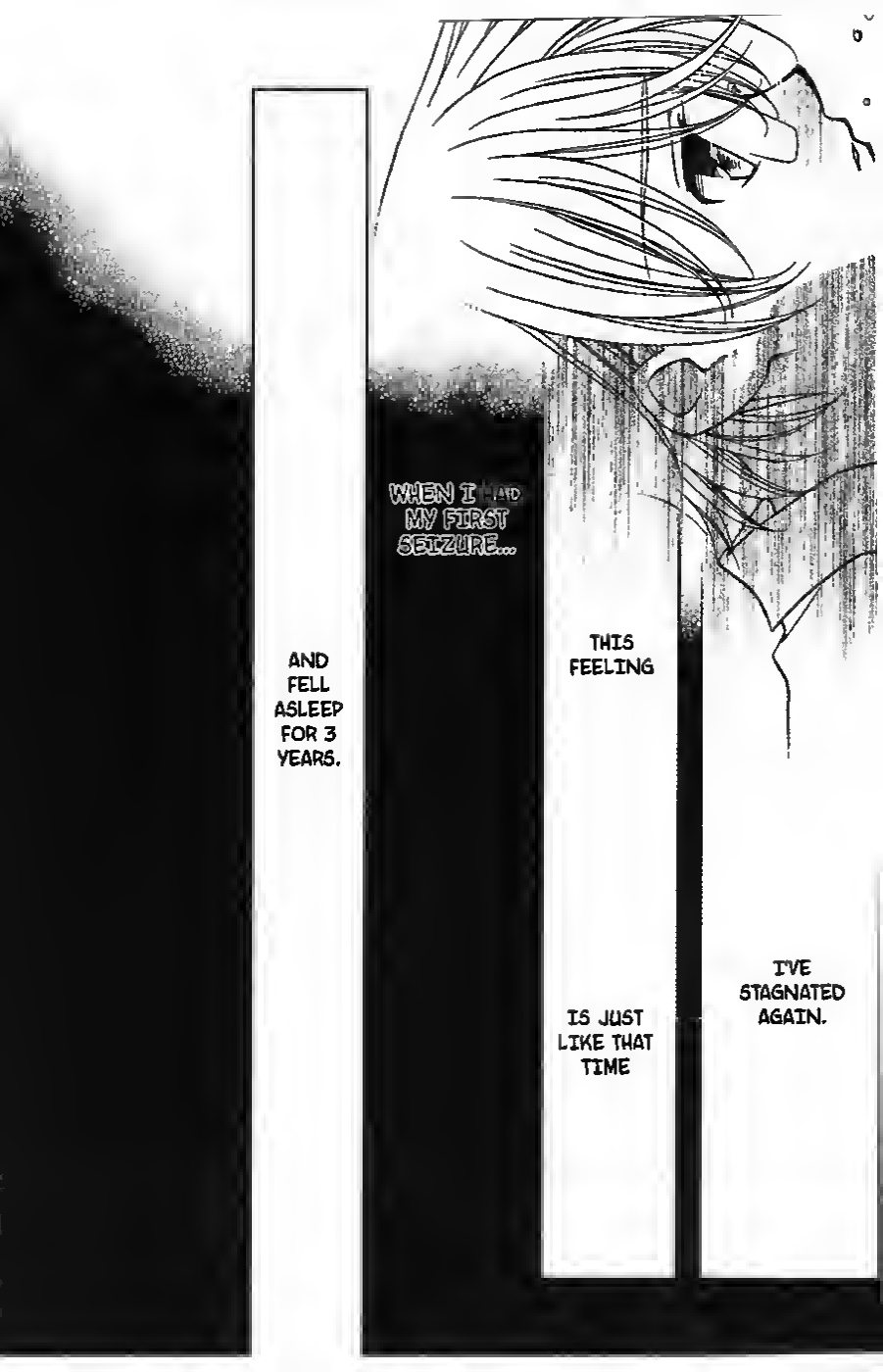
I'M NEVER GOING TO LET GO.
HEY KEI!
THANK GOODNESS WE DIDN'T MISS EACH OTHER.
YOU WERE LATE SO I DECIDE TO COME PICK YOU UP ON THE WAY HOME FROM SHOPPING.
I HOPE NO ONE SEES US.
...
AND THEN...
RUSTLE
HI MIZUHO!
.....
.....
LOOK AWFULLY HAPPY ...
YOU...
DO I?
SMILE
SMILE

I'M ACCELERATING.
NOW I UNDERSTAND...
HEY.
WHY ARE YOU ACTING ALL FUNNY?
NOTH-ING.
...CAN'T...
I FEEL LIKE I CAN ACCEPT IT ALL.
HM?
WHAT?
IF I CAN THINK I STAGNATED IN ORDER TO MEET THEM
THE TIME I LOST AND SUFFERED FROM IT
HYOSUKE, MATAGU, KOISHI AND THEM
AND OF COURSE MIZUHO

EMOTIONS CHANGE WITH TIME.
I CAN'T
...WHAT?...
I CAN'T...
FORGET

STORY ELEVEN - THE END

I'M AT THE BOTTOM OF A DEEP OCEAN.
AAAAH...
I FEEL LIKE...

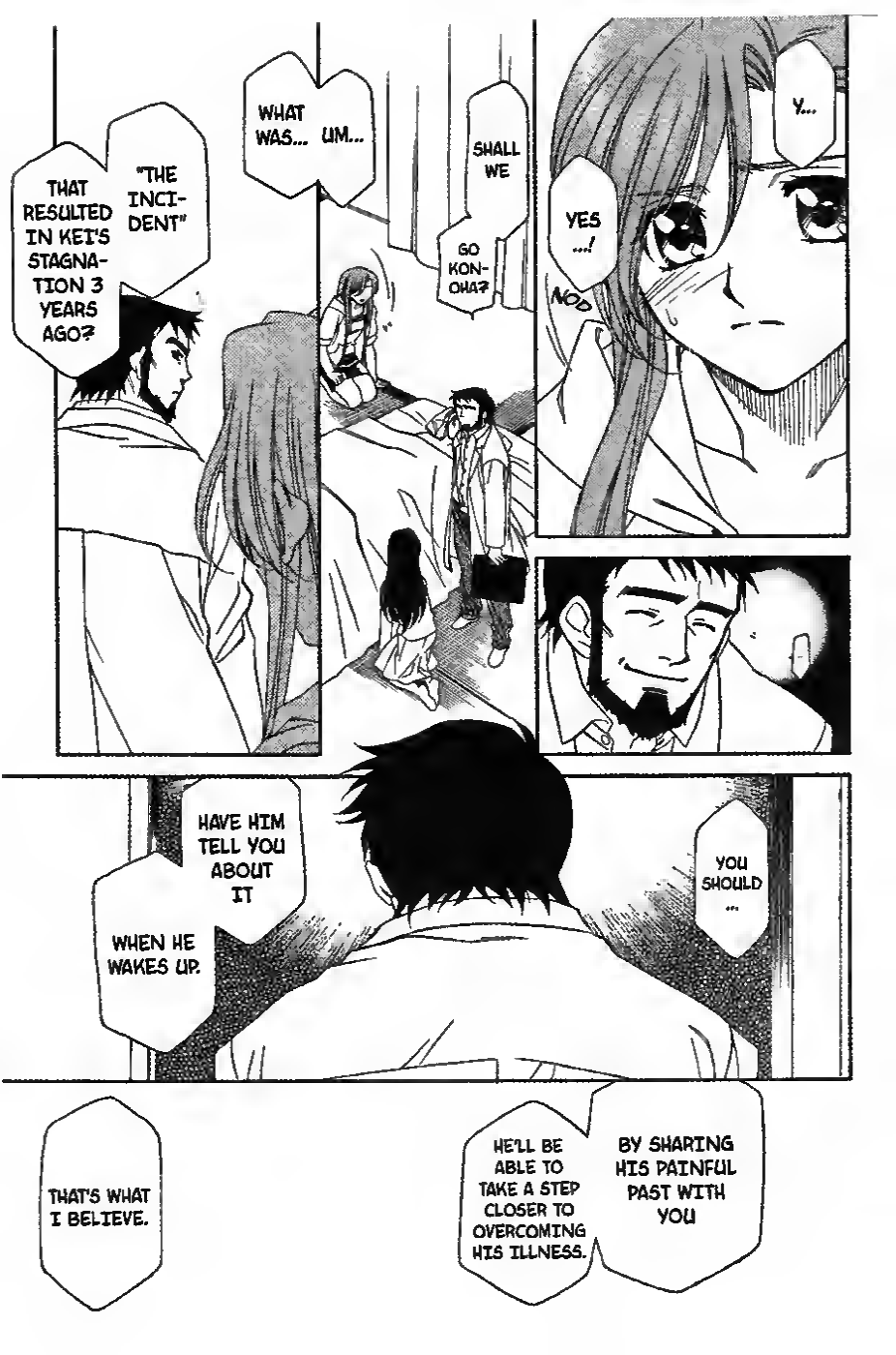

WHEN I HAD MY FIRST SEIZURE...
AND FELL ASLEEP FOR 3 YEARS.
THIS FEELING
IS JUST LIKE THAT TIME
I'VE STAGNATED AGAIN.

STORY TWELVE

... LOST?
AM I FORGETTING?
.....
WHAT DID I LOOSE?

WELL
MINORU ?
OH DEAR...
KEI...
HOW IS HE...
THERE'S NOT MUCH I CAN DO.
IT WOULDN'T BE MUCH DIFFERENT SENDING HIM TO A WELL-EQUIPPED HOSPITAL.
I WASN'T WORRYING MUCH ABOUT HIM SINCE HE WAS IN GOOD HEALTH BUT...
SOMETHING MUST HAVE TRIGGERED A FLASHBACK.
SCRATCH
THIS SEIZURE IS VERY SIMILAR TO THAT ONE HE HAD 3 YEARS AGO.
HE DOESN'T LOOK GOOD.

A FLASH BACK
...
SOMETHING HAPPENED THAT TRIGGERED HIS STAGNATION 3 YEARS AGO.
KEI MUST HAVE BEEN TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM HIS ILLNESS BY REPRESSING THAT MEMORY
UNCONSCIOUSLY ...
WE NEVER BRING IT UP WITH HIM ANYMORE.
I DON'T KNOW IF THAT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO OR NOT.
HE'S STILL STRONGLY AFFECTED BY HIS PAST MEMORIES.
.....
WELL...
THIS IS THE BEST I CAN DO.
I'LL BE NEXT DOOR IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.
MIZUHO
I'M GOING TO LEAVE THE REST TO YOU.
I BELIEVE THAT'S THE BEST FOR KEI.


"THE INCIDENT"
THAT RESULTED IN KEI'S STAGNATION 3 YEARS AGO?
WHAT WAS... UM...
SHALL WE GO KONOHA?
Y...
YES ...!
NOD
HAVE HIM TELL YOU ABOUT IT
WHEN HE WAKES UP.
YOU SHOULD ...
THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVE.
HE'LL BE ABLE TO TAKE A STEP CLOSER TO OVERCOMING HIS ILLNESS.
BY SHARING HIS PAINFUL PAST WITH YOU

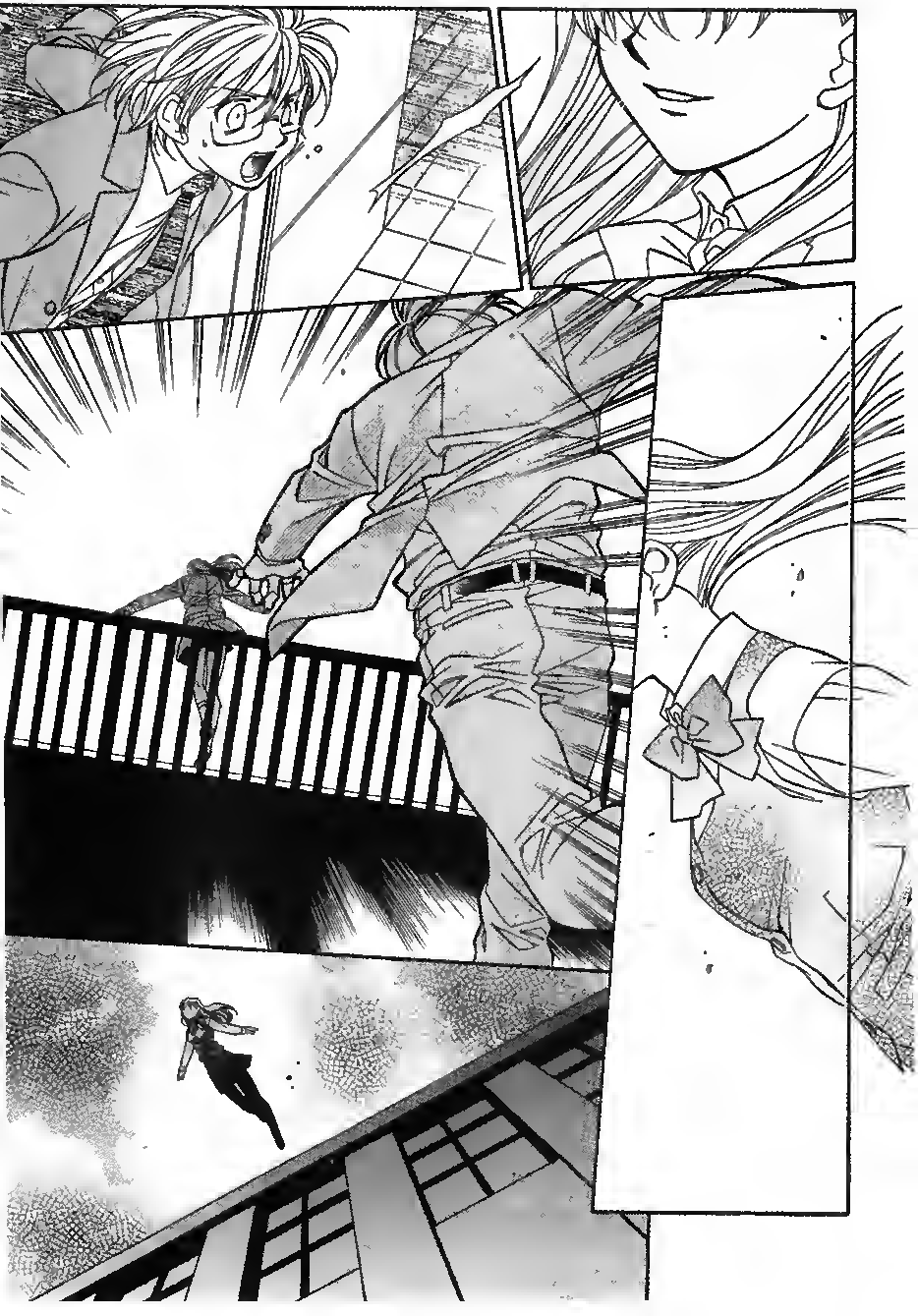
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
.....
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
.....
SQUEEZE
KEI...
DROP
.....
KEI...
KEI.
KEI...

KEI...
KEI
KEI...
KEI...!
PLEASE WAIT...
I PROMISE I'LL...

KEI...
THERE IS A GREAT DISPARITY OF EMOTIONS BETWEEN US
.....
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
PEOPLE'S EMOTIONS CHANGE WITH TIME
THERE IS THIS PAINFUL UNCERTAINTY INSIDE ME...
I CAN'T STAND THE IMPERMANENCE OF HUMAN HEARTS
NO ONE WANTS TO RESTRAIN THEIR FEELINGS RIGHT?
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THAT
...YOU'RE SWEET

BUT CRUEL.
YOU'VE EVEN FORGOTTEN THAT YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME.
Y...
YOU...
HOW CAN I PUT THE BRAKES ON CHANGE?
ANY SUGGESTIONS?
SSST

THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE.



BEFORE SORROW EATS MY HEART OUT...
I'LL PUT AN END TO IT ALL.

BEEP
BEEP
B-BEEP
AN END TO EVERY-THING IN-SIDE YOU.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO FEEL THE SORROW YOU CAN PUT AN END TO IT ALL
SORROW KNOCKS ON EVERY-ONE'S DOOR...
SOME TIME, FOR SURE

BEEP
NOH
B-BEEP
BEEP
B-BEEP
BEEP
.....
OH DEAR ...
BEEP
ONLY A SMALL BIT OF HIS CELL METABOLISM IS INTACT. THE REST OF HIS BODY IS ON PAUSE.
A PROTECTIVE MEMBRANE IS FORMING ON HIS SKIN, CAUSING HIS SKIN TO DRY UP...
SUCH A CONDI-TION...
ISN'T EVEN IN THE GALAXY'S DATABASE.
NOWHERE ...
BEEP

THE CLOSEST THING ON THIS PLANET TO KEI'S CONDITION IS...
THE RELIGIOUS MEANING OF "TO REST IN PEACE".
I GUESS IT'S ALSO SIMILAR TO THE STATE OF BEING IN DEEP MEDITATION.
HE PERSONALLY BRINGS HIMSELF TO "REST"...
IF THAT'S TRUE ABOUT KEI'S STAGNATION...
IF KEI HIMSELF IS SEEKING THIS STATE...
BED
THERE'S NOTHING THAT I CAN DO.
NOH
THEN ...
MARIE...
WHAT I AM SUPPOSED TO DO?

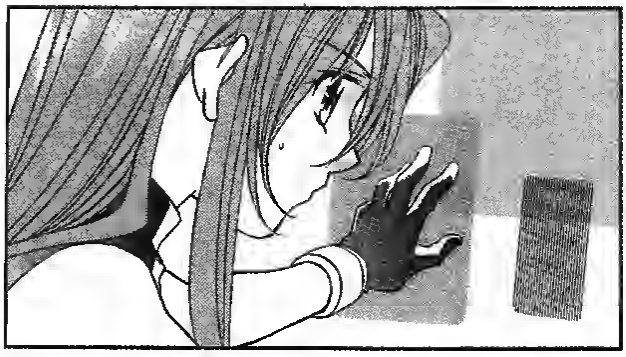
THEY'RE THE ONLY ONES OUT SICK. WHAT DO YOU MEAN THERE'S A FLU GOING AROUND?
MAN, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW?
... ICHIGO?
WHAT?
MS. KAZAMI IS OUT TODAY?
WHY?
THERE'S PROBABLY A FLU GOING AROUND. KEI'S OUT SICK TOO.
NO IDEA!
BUT...
ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?
WHAT'S WRONG?
.....
.....
COULD KEI...
HAVE STAGNATED ...?
STAGNATED...?

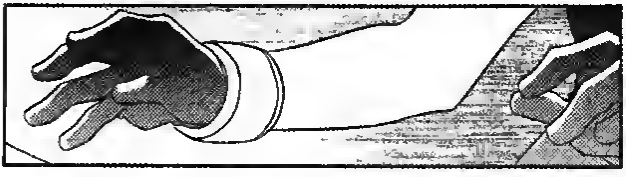
KEI...
HAS THE SAME SICKNESS I HAVE.
BEEP
BEEP
HE CALLED IT "STAGNATION."
WHEN WE'RE ANXIOUS OR DISTRESSED WE SOMETIMES LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS.
IN REALLY BAD CASES, WE STAY ASLEEP FOR YEARS.
BEEP
BEEP

KEI AND I WERE BOTH DETACHED FROM REALITY FOR A LONG TIME.
BEEP
.....
YOU SAID THAT?
TO KEI?
HE'S IN STAGNATION RIGHT NOW...
ONE REASON MUST BE...
SNIFF
BEEP
BEEP
.....
IF...
!
WIPE

.....
YEAH YOU ARE.
WHY... DID YOU?
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID ALL THOSE THINGS.
HE WAS JUGGLING WITH HIS EMOTIONS AND I...
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT.
I COULDN'T STAND SEEING YOU CRY.
MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WAS GOING TO STAGNATE...
KOISHI...
HAH!
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME HAPPY ONE SINGLE BIT!
YOU BUSYBODY!
A COMPLETE IDIOT!
WHAT ...?
SQUEEZE
IT'S THAT YOU KEPT YOUR SICKNESS TO YOURSELF!
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HURTS ME THE MOST?

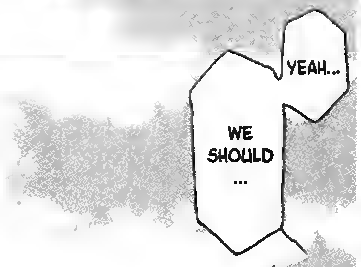
YOU DON'T NEED TO FORCE A SMILE OUT OF ME.
AND I WAS CRY-ING
JUST 'CAUSE I WAS REJECTED...
KOI...
SQUUUEEZE
I DON'T WANT ANY SECRETS BETWEEN US.
ISN'T THAT WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR?
I JUST WANTED YOU TO BE BY MY SIDE.
ICHI-GO
WE'RE GOING TO MOVE...
SORRY... KOISHI.





I HAVE THIS FEEL-ING...
THAT MAYBE THE ONE KEI LIKES IS MS. KAZAMI.
WHAT?
I ALWAYS CAUGHT KEI LOOKING OVER AT HER.
I THINK IT MAKES SENSE.

OURSELVES
FORWARD...



STORY TWELVE - THE END

.....
SOMETIMES THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT.
IN REALITY, WE CAN'T ALWAYS MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION.
NOT EVERYONE CAN ALWAYS BE HAPPY.
ONE'S HAPPINESS WILL RESULT IN ANOTHER'S SORROW.
WHY NOT...?
WE'RE ONLY BLESSED WITH JOY FOR THE TIME BEING...
HUMANS SEEK MERE HAPPINESS.
HOW GREEDY.
YEAH
THAT'S WHY HUMANS FEEL PAIN AND SORROW.
WITHOUT SORROW WE CAN'T KNOW JOY.
WHAT A CONTRADICTION.

THIS WORLD OF CONTRA-DICTIONS ISN'T FOR ME.
I SHALL PUT AN END TO IT WHILE I STILL FEEL JOY.
I WILL TRAN-SCEND REALITY...
AND HEAD TO A LAND FREE OF SORROW
YOU HAVE THE FREEDOM OF TAKING OFF AND ESCAP-ING THE WAY I WILL.
YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN.

STORY THIRTEEN

KEI HAD TO GO SEE HIS PARENTS.
UH...
UNFORTUNATELY
HI GUYS.
THANKS FOR COMING OVER.
WHA...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HAH!
DID MS. KAZAMI GO WITH HIM?
DID KEI HAVE ANOTHER SEIZURE?
PLEA
TELL US THE TRUTH!
KEI IS OUR FRIEND.
WE WANT TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO HELP HIM.
!...
GUYS ...

UM...
I FEEL AS THOUGH I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS LAST SEIZURE.
SO I...
WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO HIM.
KEI KEEPS THINGS TO HIMSELF.
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR US TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HE'S GOING THROUGH.
BUT WE SENSE THAT THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT THIS TIME.
I'LL LET HIM KNOW
HOW CARING YOU GUYS ALL ARE.
I CAN'T SAY MUCH RIGHT NOW BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT HIM.
KEI IS FINE.
I SEE.
THANKS!

TELL KEI THAT I'M OKAY?
UM... CAN YOU...
CAN YOU GUYS WAIT JUST A LITTLE BIT LONGER?
SURE.
OKAY.
OF COURSE.
YES.

.....
KEI...
NOH
DO YOU REMEMBER?
I MEAN...
WHEN WE FIRST SAW EACH OTHER.
HONEY ...
THAT NIGHT I LANDED ON EARTH.

THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME.
I KNEW RIGHT AWAY THAT YOU WERE THE ONE I SAW THE NIGHT BEFORE.
WHEN I MOVED IN NEXT DOOR...
AND INVITED YOU TO MY APARTMENT. YOU NOTICED WHO I WAS... JUST AS I HAD EXPECTED.
EVERYTHING HAS BEEN LIKE A ROLLER COASTER RIDE SINCE THEN.
HMHM ...
WE MET THE NEXT DAY.
YOU TOOK EVERYTHING I SAID SERIOUSLY...
I AM MIZUHO'S HUSBAND!
YOU EVEN SHARED YOUR SECRETS WITH ME.
ME AS YOUR TEACHER, YOU AS MY STUDENT...
LOOKING BACK NOW...
I THINK THAT'S WHEN I FELL FOR YOU.

I DIDN'T DISLIKE GETTING MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER.
IT WAS MY FIRST TIME FEELING THAT WAY.
AT THE TIME I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THOSE FEELINGS WERE.
BUT
WHEN I SAW YOU GO OUT WITH KOISHI...
IN FACT I WAS REALLY EXCITED.
MY MIND BECAME SO FOGGY.
I WAS SO SAD...
THAT'S WHEN I REAL-IZED...
THAT YOU'RE THE ONE...
FOR ME.

I LIKE YOU...
WE'RE JUST STARTING OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER...
I WANT TO...
EVEN MORE THAN BEFORE...
PLEASE
.....
.....
DON'T STAY ASLEEP.
WE DECIDED TO WALK TOGETHER.
PLEASE WAKE UP.
SHOW YOU HOW MUCH YOU MEAN TO ME...!
I CAN'T WALK ALONE ANY-MORE ...

COME BACK.
PLEASE DON'T STOP!
...
YOU CAN STOP YOURSELF... KEI.
THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO TAKE OFF.
TO PUT AN END TO EXISTENCE ITSELF.
YOU HAVE THE POWER TO DO THAT.
WHAT YOU SEE, WHAT YOU HEAR
WHAT YOU SMELL, WHAT YOU TASTE, WHAT YOU FEEL...
TIME, YOUR HEART...
YOUR BODY, THE AIR...

I...
YOU
WILL STOP.
WILL STOP.
WOBBLE
.....
I...
WILL STOP.
YOU CAN GO AGAINS ALL OF IT...
AND STOP... YOUR EXIS-TENCE.
WHOOSH
!!
!
ZING

TOPPO
TI. CLANK
.....
WHAT IS IT...
SOMETHING IS PULLING ME BACK.
IT SHOULD BE A VOID.
AND YET SOMETHING IS PULLING ME BACK
SOMEONE IS...
HELLO.

ADJUST
HELLO.
UH...
HE...
MIZUHO KAZAMI.
UM...
YOU ARE?
WE WILL MEET.
MM... I THINK ...
YEAH.
IN THE FUTURE WE'LL GET MARRIED AND LIVE TOGETHER.
WE WILL...?
OKAY ...
YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE ME?
NO...
HAVE WE MET BEFORE?

I'M SURE IT'LL BE A LOT OF FUN LIVING WITH YOU.
IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE
BUT...
I FEEL LIKE WE'RE NOT MEANT FOR EACH OTHER...
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?
WHA...
WHAT?
WELL... YOU'RE PRETTY AND YOU'RE PROBABLY OLDER THAN ME...
.....
AM I MISTAKEN?
THERE WILL BE TIMES WHEN WE'LL CRY.
WE'LL GET IN ARGUMENTS.
BUT THERE WILL ALSO BE TIMES OF PAIN AND SORROW.
SURE THERE WILL BE TIMES WHEN WE HAVE FUN.
WHY!?
AND YET WE'RE GOING TO GET MARRIED?
YES.
I WILL... SO WILL YOU...

WE MIGHT END UP UNHAPPY!
PEOPLE AROUND US MIGHT SEE IT THAT WAY.
YEAH
.....
BUT FOR ME...
THERE'S NOTHING MORE PERFECT THAN BEING WITH YOU.
'CAUSE WE'LL BE HAPPY
EVEN THOUGH THERE WILL BE TIMES OF SORROW?
YES.
EVEN THOUGH THERE WILL BE TIMES WHEN WE CRY?
YES.

GOOD TIMES
AND BAD TIMES ...
I'M SORRY IT'S TIME.
I MUST GO.
!
FFSSSH
.....
WE WILL
MEET
IN REALI-TY?
.....
OF COURSE.

IF WE DO MEET
I KNOW...
THAT I'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU...!
.....
FFFSSSHH
OH...
KAY...
I'LL BE WAITING!
I'LL
FSSSH
SSST
HAH!

MY TEACHER ...
!
...TEA CHER ...
MS. KAZA-MI!
WE CAN'T FEEL EACH OTHER HERE.
I WANT TO BUT...
MS. KAZAMI!
ME TOO... I WANT TO FEEL YOU...!
...
K...
KEI...!
I'M SORRY MS. KAZAMI!
FFSSSH
I...

FFSSSHH
I KNOW...
I'LL BE WAIT-ING... KEI!
...
FSSSHH
I'LL GO TO YOUR SIDE!
I'LL BE BACK!
MIZUHO ...
.....
WHEEOOO

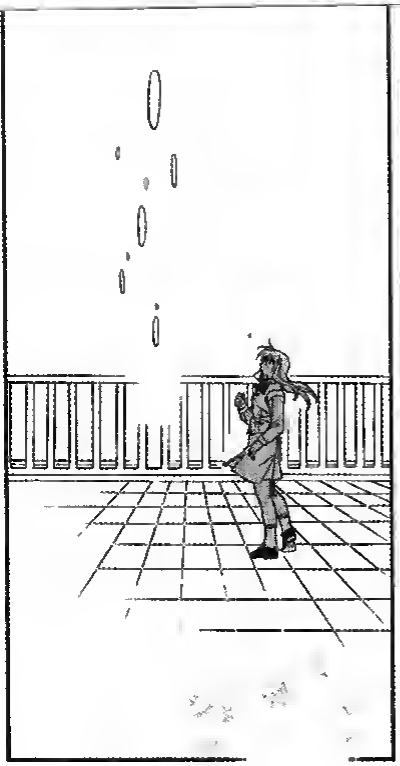
I DO IT TO MYSELF TO ESCAPE SORROW.
SO I CAN CLOSE MYSELF TO THE WORLD.
I STAG-NATE BECAUSE I'M WEAK.
.....
.....
YES
BUT IT'S FAR BET-TER THAN REALITY WHERE SORROW AWAITS.
.....
THE WORLD YOU CREATE INSIDE YOU ISN'T ENOUGH.
BUT
ONCE YOU STOP, YOU CAN'T BE HURT.
YEAH I GUESS
I SEE...
WE MAY BE WRONG.
THAT WOULD BE AN IDEAL WORLD.

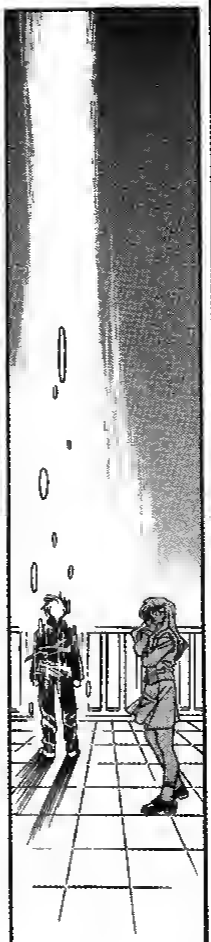
KEI...
SORRY.
I DON'T NEED ETERNITY.
I CAN LIVE WITH TRANSIENCE.
I WANT TO MOVE FORWARD!
KEI...
SORRY.
I WANT TO MOVE FORWARD.
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T FORGET YOU.

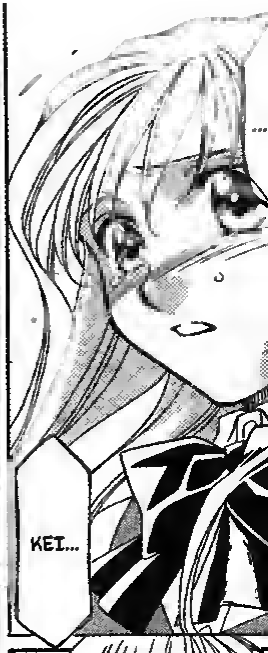
WE MUST FACE IT AND OVER-COME IT.
WE MUSTN'T TURN OUR BACKS TO SORROW.
WHY COULDN'T WE TALK MORE?
AUH...
THE SAD-NESS INSIDE ME...
WHY COULDN'T I REALIZE YOUR PAIN?
I WAS...
SO SCARED OF GETTING CLOSE
TO YOU...
IS BECAUSE I LOST YOU.

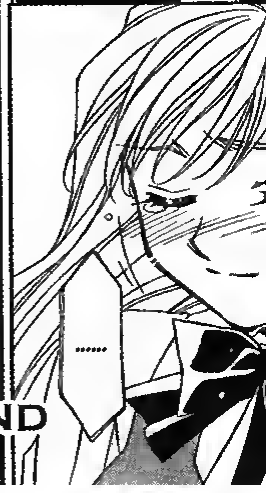
IN ORDER FOR ME TO ESCAPE THE PAIN
I SUPPRESSED ALL MY MEMORIES OF YOU
IN THIS STAGNATE WORLD.
AFTER I LOST YOU, I FELT AS THOUGH I WAS GOING TO BE CRUSHED BY A MOUNTAIN OF REGRET.
IT WAS SO PAINFUL...
I'M AN IDIOT.
THE PEACE I ATTAINED FROM FORGETTING YOUR EXISTENCE
WAS NOTHING BUT FAKE.
I'M.
KEI!
WAIT!
EVEN IN THIS WORLD WHERE TIME FLOWS...
GOING TO GO.

IT'S HARD
FINDING PEACE IN THIS WORLD THAT CHANGES EACH SECOND.
BUT I WILL LIVE WITH YOUR MEMORY
SIS...









GOOD BYE

SIS...

STORY THIRTEEN - THE END

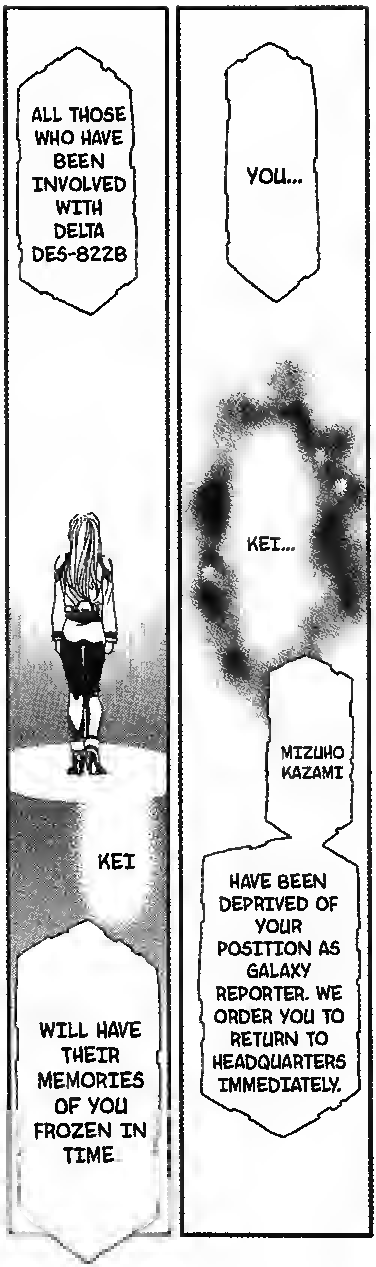
HM?
チュン
TWEET
チュン
TWEET

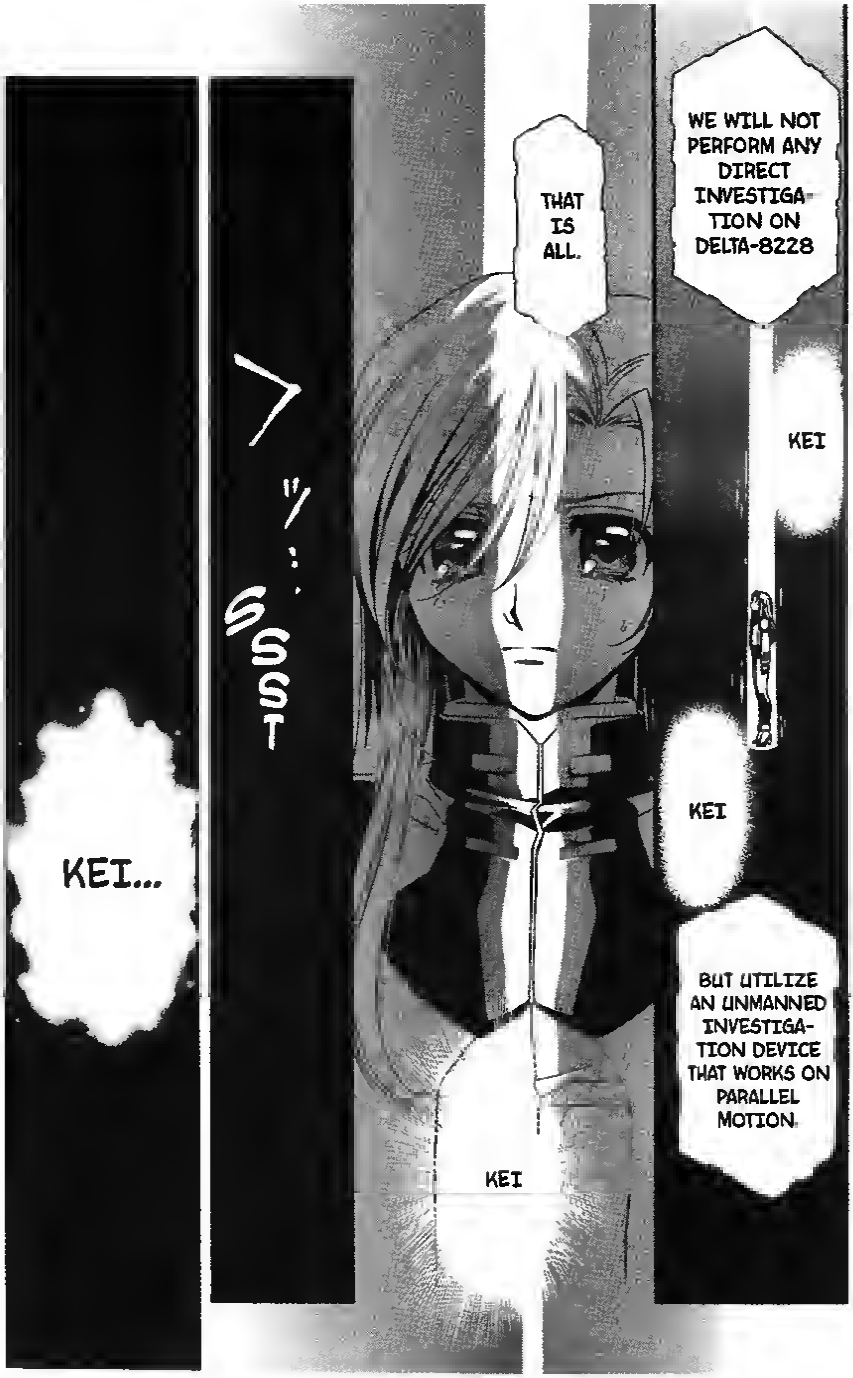
.....
SCRATCH
WHAT IS THIS FEELING?
IT'S JUST LIKE ANY OTHER MORNING
I FEEL A SENSE OF UNCER-TAINTY THIS MORNING.
AND YET SOMETHING IS DIFFERENT.

FINAL STORY

GALAXY POST PLANET NUMBER DELTA DES 8228
LEVEL 0 PLANET INSPECTOR
MIZUHO KAZAMI.
VRREEEE
ARE YOU HER?
YES.
I READ THE REPORT FROM THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.
.....

ANY OBJECTIONS?
YES...
ONLY ONE...
YOU HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.
YOU HAVE PSY-CHOLOGICALLY INTERVENED WITH THAT BEING, CON-SEQUENTLY USING WASTEFUL AMOUNTS OF OUR SYSTEM'S ENERGY.
YOU HAVE REVEALED YOUR TRUE COLORS TO ONE OF THEIR BEINGS.
SMASH
KNOCK
EAT WHAT ...?
YOU HAVE MADE PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH THAT BEING.

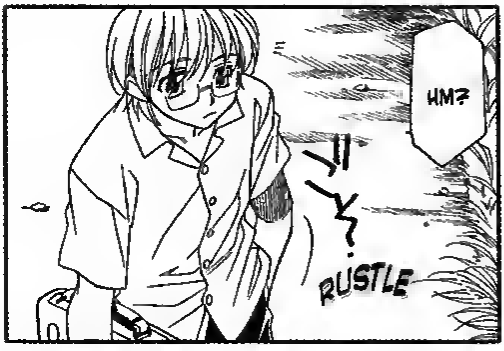

ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH DELTA DES-822B
YOU...
KEI...
MIZUHO KAZAMI
HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF YOUR POSITION AS GALAXY REPORTER. WE ORDER YOU TO RETURN TO HEADQUARTERS IMMEDIATELY.
KEI
WILL HAVE THEIR MEMORIES OF YOU FROZEN IN TIME.
.....
.....
OVER-RULED.
KEI KUSANAGI... HE'S MY HUSBAND.
IT IS ONLY RIGHT FOR ME TO ACT WITH AND FOR MY HUSBAND!

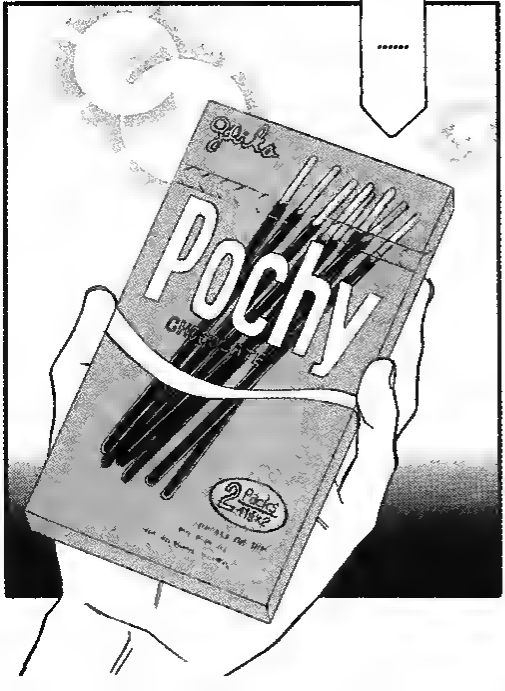

WE WILL NOT PERFORM ANY DIRECT INVESTIGATION ON DELTA-8228
THAT IS ALL.
KEI
KEI
BUT UTILIZE AN UNMANNED INVESTIGATION DEVICE THAT WORKS ON PARALLEL MOTION.
KEI
SSST
KEI...

.....
CLANK
HUH...
OH...
BREAKFAST IS IMPORTANT
HM?
WHAT'S WRONG KEI? YOU'RE NOT HUNGRY?
YEAH ...
.....
!
I DREAMT ABOUT SIS.
LAST NIGHT ...
I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH I WAS TROUBLING YOU GUYS.
KEI..
YOU REMEMBER?

SORRY.
THANKS.
I'M OKAY NOW.
I WANT TO START TALKING MORE ABOUT SIS.
SO THAT I WON'T EVER FORGET HER.
I FEEL AS THOUGH
I HAVE TO TELL THIS TO SOME-ONE.
I CAN'T SEEM TO REMEMBER WHO
THOUGH ...
MAKES ME FEEL A LITTLE SAD...
GREAT!
YOU REALLY ARE...
YEAH.
I FEEL LIKE I CAN SEE THINGS CLEARER NOW.
SLAP SLAP
ばん
ばん
TAKING EACH STEP FORWARD!

BUT
YO KEI!
SLAP
YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE IF YOU'RE WALKING LIKE A SNAIL!
YEAH.
SOME-THING IS DIFFERENT.
.....
I FEEL SATIS-FIED.
GOOD MORN-ING!
HEY!
'MORN-ING KEI!





I COULDN'T HAVE LOST ANY-THING...

I GOT HOLD OF AN IMPORTANT THING I HAD LEFT BEHIND

BUT I FEEL AS THOUGH I'M LOSING ANOTHER IMPORTANT THING...

.....
I BOUGHT THIS AS A GIFT...
OH... UM...
KEI YOU'RE STARTING OFF YOUR DAY WITH CRAP LIKE THAT?
HM?
...
FOR WHO?
A GIFT?
KEI, YOU STILL ON YOUR SUMMER BREAK COMA?
KONOHA MAYBE...?
UM... WHO WAS I GOING TO GIVE IT TO?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME...
.....
WHAT'S GOING ON...
HA
...

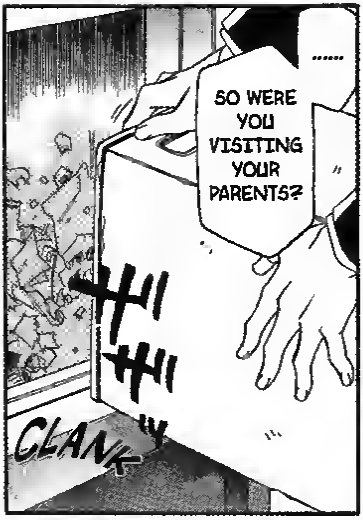
KEI ...
ARE YOU CRYING?
HUH?
MAN HAHA HA I'M FINE GUYS, REALLY!
AHAHA
WHAT I LOST...
.....
I THINK SOMETHING FLEW IN MY EYES.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HAHA
UM...
WIPE

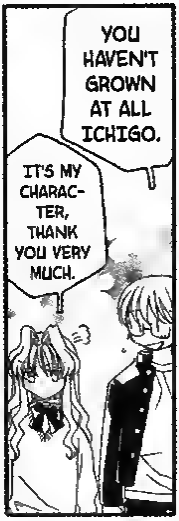
STOP THESE TEARS...
I CAN'T
...
KNOWING THAT IT WILL NEVER RETURN
BUT
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I LOST
WHEN I FEEL THAT PAIN
DROP

AND YET
SEASONS
WILL
CHANGE
YET
AND I...

WHAT?
REAL-LY?
HEY... YOU GREW A LOT.
YEAH YOU GREW SO MUCH THIS PAST YEAR.
I'M JEAL-OUS...

THANKS KEI.
IT MEANS A LOT.
HEH.
YOU KNOW WHAT'S UP.
WHAT A SURPRISE!
CLANK
HELP YOU THROW AWAY THE TRASH.
AS A GUY WHO WALKED BY YOU, THIS IS WHAT I GOT TO DO.
NO PROB


.....
SO WERE YOU VISITING YOUR PARENTS?
HI HI
CLANK

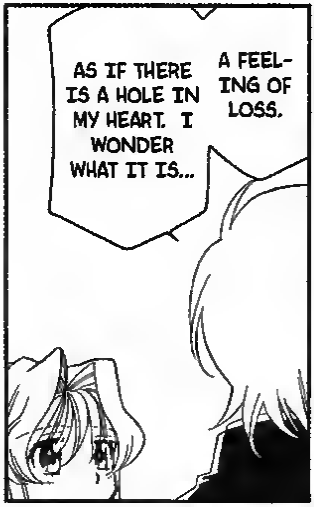

YOU HAVEN'T GROWN AT ALL ICHIGO.
IT'S MY CHARAC-TER, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

HEHE
I HOPE SO.
IT'S PROBABLY A SIGN
THAT YOU'RE GET-TING BETTER

.....
GRRRR
YOU MOVED FOR-WARD.
YOU TOOK A STEP FOR-WARD
WE JUST CHATTED A WHOLE LOT.
NOT AS EXCITING AS I HAD EXPECTED.
IT WAS OKAY.
I HEARD FROM HYOSUKE.
YEAH.
IT WAS A GOOD CHANCE TO SEE THEM
DURING BREAK
HOW WAS IT?
MINORU TOLD ME...
CLANK
YEAH PROB ABLY.
.....
HASN'T HIT ME YET THOUGH.
THAT YOU DON'T REALIZE WHILE YOU'RE WALKING.
IT'S WHEN YOU STOP AND LOOK BACK
THAT YOU FIRST REALIZE HOW FAR YOU'VE TRAVELED.

IT FEELS STRANGE.
?
YEAH ?
THAT'S GREAT!

FOR SOME REASON I HAVEN'T HAD A SEIZURE
SINCE LAST FALL.
CLANK
I'M NOT SURE BUT MAYBE THIS MEANS I'M MOVING FORWARD.


AS IF THERE IS A HOLE IN MY HEART. I WONDER WHAT IT IS...
A FEELING OF LOSS.

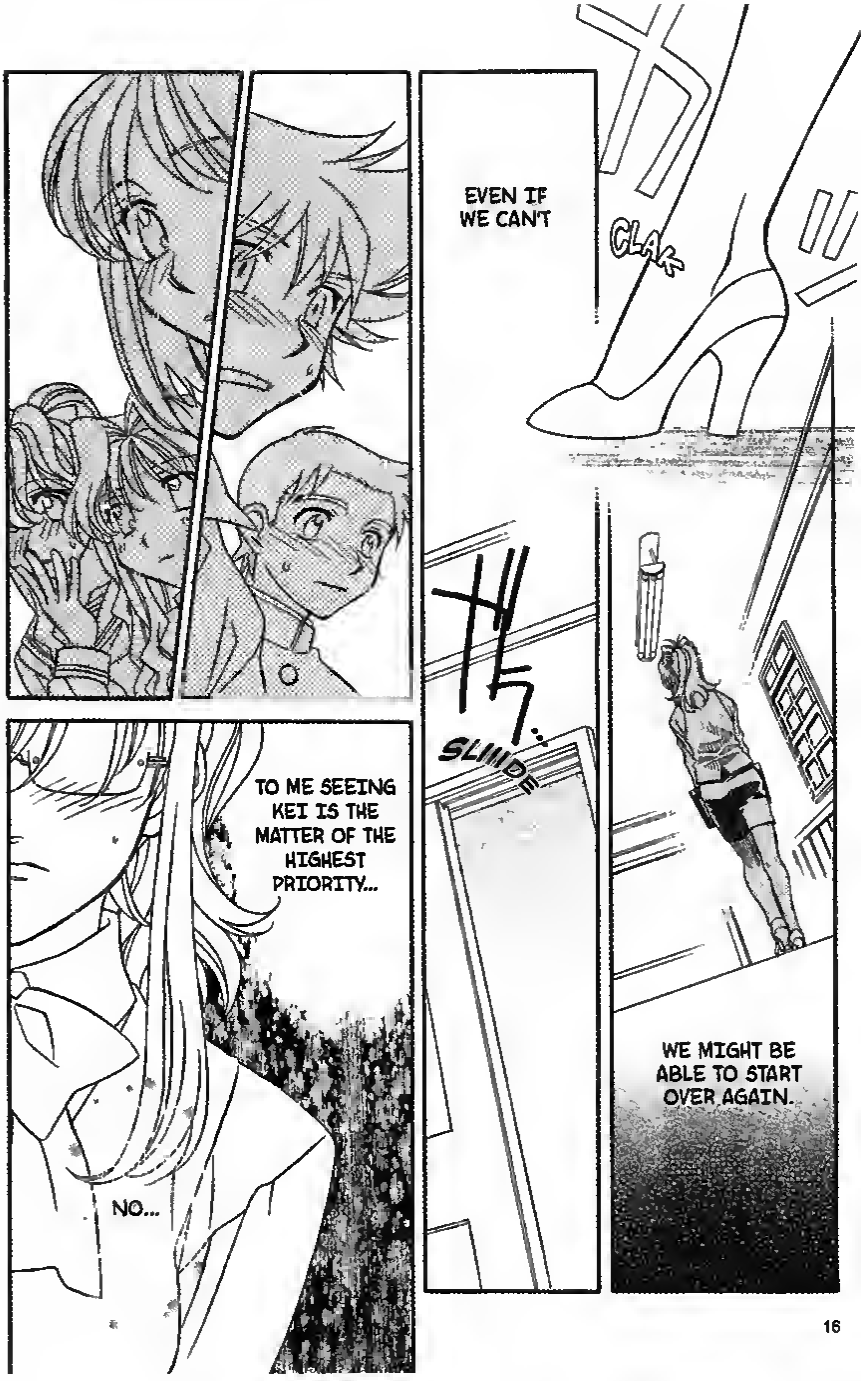
EVEN IF I HAVE WALKED FORWARD
I FEEL AS THOUGH ONE OF MY STEPS HAS BEEN CUT OFF SOMEWHERE.

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE WHAT YOU'RE FEELING BUT...
I...

THE REASON WHY YOU KEEP MOVING FORWARD
IS PROBABLY BECAUSE YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR THAT SOMETHING.
YEA...
YEAH...
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.
I'LL...
FOREVER BE SEARCHING FOR THAT MISSING PIECE.

BIG NEWS! BIG NEWS!
YO!
おりゃ
ZZZP
LISTEN UP GUYS! YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT!
WHAT'S THE BIG NEWS?
HAH
HYOSUKE IS ALWAYS EXCESSIVELY ENERGETIC.
THAT IS... BIG NEWS...
...YOU WOULD THINK. BUT THE REALLY BIG NEWS IS THIS...
...
OUR HOMEROOM TEACHER, THE OLD DOG FUJIMOTO, QUIT HIS JOB!
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!
YEAH!
NO WAY!
BELIEVING THAT I'LL GET IT BACK
SOME TIME...

OUR NEW HOMEROOM TEACHER...
IS SOME YOUNG HOT LADY!
MIZUHO
EVEN IF YOU GO, HIS MEMORY HAS BEEN CUT OFF.
SIS, I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD GO.
IT'LL JUST MAKE YOU SAD.
SEEING HIM WILL MAKE YOU SAD...
I'M GOING.
ARE YOU REALLY GOING?
HE WON'T REMEMBER YOU...
ADJUST


EVEN IF WE CAN'T
CLAK
SLIDE
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO START OVER AGAIN.
TO ME SEEING KEI IS THE MATTER OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITY...
NO...

I WANT TO SEE HIM.
I JUST WANT TO SEE HIM...!
I WILL BE YOUR NEW HOMEROOM TEACHER. MY NAME IS MIZUHO KAZAMI.
I'M NEW HERE SO I'M SURE THERE'S A LOT I STILL DON'T KNOW...
D...
YO CHECK IT OUT!
DAAAMN!
Wow
YHAAW.
KEEP QUIET HYOSUKE!
KEI...!
ZING
I DON'T MIND EVEN IF YOU'VE FORGOT-TEN.
SNIFF
.....
.....

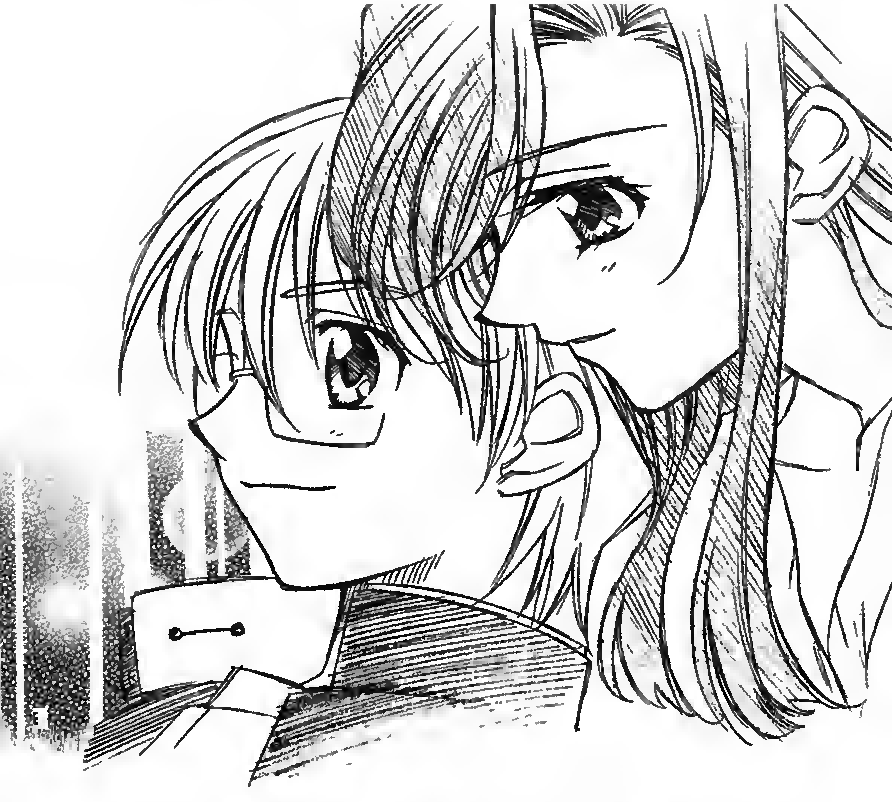
THE ONE AND ONLY KEI IN THE UNIVERSE...
I WANT TO MEET HIM AGAIN.
HE...
REALLY DOESN'T REMEMBER...
WHICH IS A GIVEN.
A LOT SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED AROUND HERE.
A YEAR HAS GONE BY IN THIS WORLD.
FEELS LIKE I HAD BEEN STAGNATING...

LONG TIME NO SEE...
MS. KAZAMI!
WE INSTALLED AN AUTOMATIC SYSTEM AND I FORCED MY WAY
TO THIS PLANET...
K...
KEI...!
HOW...? YOU REMEMBER?
HEHE
WHAT...?
TAT
ARE YOU ANOTHER GALAXY REPORTER?
HM?
NOPE.
THIS TIME I'M NOT.
I GOT HELP FROM MY MOTHER AND MAHO.

KEI...!
AS SOON AS I SAW YOUR FACE!
I REGAINED MY MEMORY
UH...
YOU WERE PURPOSELY ACTING LIKE YOU DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME EARLIER?
HM?
YOU MEAN...
YEAH.
I PROMISED YOU I'D HOLD IN REALITY.
REALLY...?
.....
BUT...
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO? EVERYONE WAS WATCHING...
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU!
THAT'S HORRIBLE!
UHH...

I DON'T LIKE YOU ANYMORE KEI!
WHAT-EVER!
YOU KNOW WHAT I REALIZED?
REALLY ...?
THAT
EVEN IF I DID LOSE ALL PAST MEMORIES
EVEN IF I STOP WALK-ING.
I KNOW THAT
I'LL FALL FOR YOU
EVEN IF I LOSE IT.
AGAIN...
AS LONG AS THERE IS SOMEONE I CAN BE THINKING OF
... MIZU HO?
.....

MS. KAZAMI...
SO PLEASE...
WE CAN START OVER
AS MANY TIMES AS WE LIKE...!
ONEGAI TEACHER - THE END



I HOPE YOU ENJOYED IT/ SO THIS IS THE END OF HAYASHIYA'S VERSION OF PLEASE TEACHER. THANK YOU THANK YOU.../// I WANTED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS LAST PAGE TO TELL YOU GUYS SO MUCH BUT... NOW THAT I'VE ACTUALLY COMPLETED THE STORY I CAN'T THINK OF WHAT IT WAS I WANTED TO SHARE. WELL ANYWAYS/ AS I MENTIONED IN THE PREVIOUS VOLUME, WRITING THIS COMIC HAS BEEN A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ME IN MANY WAYS. BUT I'VE BEEN VERY SELFISH IN MANY WAYS, DOING THINGS THE WAY I PLEASE... SORRY AND THANK YOU/ OF COURSE MY THANKS GO OUT TO ALL THE FANS/ SORRY FOR SUDDENLY CHANGING THE SUBJECT... (PAINFUL LAUGH) <-- IT AIN'T FUNNY... ANYWAYS/ I HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN SOON/

SHIZURU HAYASHIYA, JANUARY 2003

P.S. LAST BUT NOT LEAST, MY ASSISTANTS/ WELL, MORE LIKE MY PARTNERS/ : REIKO MAKISE AND SATARO SATO. THANKS A BUNCH/ AND OF COURSE MY ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE MR. RED. THANKS A LOT/

Relationship Chart